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Men Who Led Soviet Coup Are Tried by A New Nation

By Serge Schmemmann New York Times Service MOSCOW — Twelve leaders of the August 1991 coup attempt finally went on trial Wednesday, accused of betraying a motherland that no longer exists. While a group of die-hard Communists cheered behind police barricades outside, the defendants launched an anticipated barrage of motions seeking to disqualify the military judges, the prosecutors and the court itself. And when the chief judge dismissed these, one of the defendants promptly fell ill. The maneuvers confirmed what legal experts had unanimously predicted, that the trial of the "G.K.Ch.P." — the Russian initials for the State Committee on the State of Emergency — would be long, messy and steeped in the contradictions and conflicts that have evolved in the 20 months since the unsuccessful coup. The defendants, who arrived one by one to the court building in central Moscow, were far from the powerful Soviet leaders they once had been — chiefs of the KGB, the military, the Council of Ministers and the Soviet legislature, as well as the vice president. But as they walked jauntily in well-tailored gray suits and waved cheerily to supporters, they were also not the despised and humbled enemies unceremoniously rounded up and displayed in grainy video images in the days after the coup. Since their release from jail, the last of them in February, the defendants have given numerous interviews and have addressed many rallies — most notably when the former speaker of the Soviet legislature, Anatoli I. Lukyanov, mounted the balcony of the Russian parliament to harangue demonstrators seeking the removal of President Boris N. Yeltsin. Mr. Lukyanov and Vladimir A. Kryuchkov, the former head of the KGB, are both completing books.



Genadi Yanyev, former vice president, smiling as he and Dmitri Yazov, former defense minister, arrived at the court in Moscow.

Russia Arms Spillover Chills East Asia Some Fear Flow of Weapons Will Fuel Chinese Ambitions

By Michael Richardson International Herald Tribune SINGAPORE — Even with huge injections of aid from the West and Japan, analysts and observers assert, countries of East Asia fear that political and economic turmoil in Russia will continue for years, increasing the flow of advanced weapons and military technology to China from the former Soviet Union. Some Western analysts say there is also a risk that chaos in Russia might encourage the population of the Far Eastern region of the country to break away from Moscow, tempting Beijing to try to re-establish control over Russian territory along the Pacific coast that was once part of China. Jusuf Wanandi, chairman of the supervisory board of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Jakarta, said any aid package for Russia agreed by the Group of Seven in Tokyo should be made conditional on Moscow's agreement to impose greater restraints on arms transfers to Asia. He said domestic challenges would keep Russia looking inward for the next 10 to 20 years. But since arms factories were among the very few industries that worked in Russia and the country needed foreign exchange to pay for imports, Mr. Jusuf said it was likely that Russian weapons would continue to flow into East Asia "fueling an unnecessary arms buildup in the region and creating new tensions." Most Russian military sales to Asia have gone to China, which many Asians fear has ambitions to become a dominant power in the area as its economy grows. Equipment so far supplied to China by Moscow includes jet fighters and air defense missiles. But Asian officials are concerned that future sales will extend to weapons that have a long-range, offensive capability such as strategic bombers, aircraft carriers and nuclear submarines. In an interview with a Taiwan newspaper earlier this year, Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore's senior minister, said China was "bound to See CHINA, Page 7

U.S. Plea for Russia Fails to Stir Allies

The G-7, Warned of Major Setback If Yeltsin Loses, Balks Over More Aid

By Daniel Williams Washington Post Service TOKYO — The United States made preparations to unveil an additional \$1.8 billion of aid to Russia on Wednesday, but its allies were largely cool to American requests to provide more assistance. Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher appealed for the new assistance from the Group of Seven industrialized democracies meeting here to work out a large aid package for Russia. He warned of global adversity should President Boris N. Yeltsin lose an April 25 national vote of confidence. Russia, Mr. Christopher said, would take a "major step backward" jeopardizing an accord on reducing nuclear weapons as well as Moscow's current benign foreign policy. Mr. Christopher called Mr. Yeltsin "far superior" to his rivals in the conservative Russian congress. But his comments did not appear to set off a rush to pledge more aid among allies at the meeting of G-7 foreign and finance ministers. The Japanese, who came up with their own \$1.8 billion package, said they did not expect to give more. Germany said it had done enough in the past, when it provided Russia with billions of dollars to speed reunification with East Germany. Italy pleaded economic hard times. France and Canada made reference to their own domestic woes, participants in the meeting said. [Britain announced on Wednesday an additional \$600 million in support for Russia, Agency France-Press reported from Tokyo. [Norman Lamont, chancellor of the Exchequer, said the new package brought Britain's total assistance to Russia to \$1.8 billion. The new amount includes about \$500 million in export credits and investment insurance and \$93 million in technical assistance.] American officials criticized the Japanese package because it was made up mostly of loans, which would probably be tagged to purchases of Japanese goods. "It's business as usual," an American official said. Members of the Japanese G-7 delegation appeared miffed that Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, who is here with Mr. Christopher, failed to wholeheartedly endorse the program. In addition, they were taken aback by reports that Mr. Clinton would ask Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa for more at a meeting Friday in Washington. "We have done our best," said a Japanese delegate. "Some grants, some loans. It's not so miserable." Lack of enthusiasm on the part of the allies could prove an embarrassment not only to Mr. Yeltsin but also to President Bill Clinton, who has invested personal energy and prestige in trying to whip up support for the Russian leader. In the last two days, Mr. Clinton has phoned both Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany and Mr. Miyazawa to ask that they open their purses. The Group of Seven is aiming to piece together a complex \$30 billion package of aid. In a turnabout, Boris Yeltsin says he now wants to revive a canceled Tokyo trip. Page 2

In Germany's Parliamentary Politics, the Easterners Are Lost Souls

By Marc Fisher Washington Post Service BONN — Vera Wollenberger is shy and nervous. She shifts about in her chair, adjusts her blouse, stares at the floor, lets her voice trail off into a murmur. It is late afternoon, and her office has grown so dark it is impossible to read a book title from three feet away. She is a member of the German parliament from the former Communist East Germany. She and her tiny Alliance 90 party are, she says, virtually ineffectual. Her colleagues of the West neither seek her advice nor offer their help. She says she and other former East Germans have "no social contact whatsoever with the Westeners." "I'm clear we don't decide things here," Ms. Wollenberger said. "We're tokens. On the defense committee, I'm multiply handicapped — as a woman, as an Easterner and as a nonexpert." More than two years after German reunification, leaders in both parts of the country are worried that the failure to create a respectable field of politicians in the East is contributing to the region's disillusionment with government and contempt for authority. Ms. Wollenberger, 40, has a dramatic past. A former Communist who was expelled from the party, she was imprisoned for publicly opposing the stationing of Soviet nuclear weapons in East Germany and later exiled. Since 1990, when she and 139 other East Germans — revolutionaries, scientists-turned-dissidents, former Communists — joined the first parliament of the reunited country, she has been frustrated by her bit part in the pageant of democracy. Chancellor Helmut Kohl boasts of having two ministers from the East in his cabinet and two at the top level of his Christian Democratic Party. But even Mr. Kohl's closest advisers dismiss Bonn's most prominent East German, Angela Merkel — a 38-year-old physicist who catapulted from deputy spokesman for the last East German prime minister to Germany's minister for women and youth — as a "token East." She has emerged as an effective advocate, particularly for women from the East made jobless by Germany's dramatic economic changes, but she appears to play little role in the development of political strategy in the Christian Democratic Party. Easterners in parliament say that despite an agreement to See EAST, Page 6

Pope Tells Nuns to Leave Their Auschwitz Convent

By Jane Perlez New York Times Service WARSAW — In a last-minute letter apparently intended to defuse controversy on the 50th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, Pope John Paul II has told Roman Catholic nuns to move from their convent at the Auschwitz concentration camp. The Pope, in the letter made public by the Polish news agency here Wednesday, said the 14 Carmelite nuns must move to another convent within the diocese in the Auschwitz area or return to where they came from nine years ago. The presence of the nuns, who live in a convent converted from a building used by the Nazis as a storehouse for poison gas, has been an impediment to improved Roman Catholic-Jewish relations in Poland and elsewhere. Many Jews are offended by the red brick convent just outside the barbed wire perimeter at Auschwitz, where about 1.5 million Jews died. The World Jewish Congress threatened earlier this year to boycott the ceremonies planned for Monday to mark the ghetto uprising unless the issue of the nuns was resolved. Vice President Al Gore, along with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel and President



SOUTH AFRICA PROTEST — A Cape Town riot policeman firing at crowds trying to free a looter during rioting on Wednesday over the killing of Chris Hani. At least three people were killed and hundreds more wounded in the rioting. Page 2.

Kiosk Juror Ill, Deliberations on King Halt LOS ANGELES (AP) — Deliberations in the Rodney King beating trial were interrupted on Wednesday because a juror became ill and was taken to a doctor. The nature of the illness was not disclosed. Judge John G. Davies of U.S. District Court said the jury intended to resume deliberations for the sixth day Thursday, with the juror. The four Los Angeles policemen on trial are accused of violating Mr. King's civil rights by beating him with clubs at the end of a high-speed automobile chase.

The Clinton White House: A Workaholic's Dream

By Dan Balz Washington Post Service WASHINGTON — "This story," the White House aide Bruce Reed said in a tone of voice that suggested state secrets were involved, "had to be written sooner or later." No scandal here. No major exposé. The story begins with the vitality of youth and the insomnia of the president. That is a deadly combination, especially at the beginning of an administration when everyone is keyed up and bursting to do great things for the country. You get the idea. These folks in the Clinton White House are burning the candle at both ends, and it is not a pretty sight. Late hours are not exactly a new story in the White House. Every new administration has a few characters with cursed bags under the eyes. And the "lights burned past midnight" imagery is standard now for even run-of-the-mill foreign-policy crises. But in the Clinton administration, there is a college culture afoot. They call the 18 acres that encompass the White House and the Old Executive Office Building "the campus," and one youthful aide, Jonathan Prince, joked that there are so many twentysomethings running around the office that it should be renamed the Young Executives Office Building. Along with that are dorm hours. Everyone has a tale to tell. David Dreyer, a youngish communications adviser, already has pulled a couple of all-nighters and claimed recently that he had had "two days off since the Bush administration." When was the last time he saw his children awake? "I can't remember," he said. Ira Magaziner, who is busy creating a new national health-care system, is described by some in the White House as one of the worst offenders — or perhaps one of the most devoted public servants — and at 45 is not even part of the young generation. He is often in before dawn and stays late, late, late. "He's got 5 See CANDLE, Page 7

But That Doesn't Get the Job Done

Washington Post Service WASHINGTON — At the rate the Clinton administration keeps moving on the appointment front — a whopping dozen or so a week lately — the 600 or so senior-most government jobs will not be filled soon. In fact, at the current rate, there is little danger that the administration will fill the top slots anytime this year. The good news for Clintonites, at least the miserable who love company, is that in 1989, the Bush administration was in much the same boat. Of the 184 people announced, President Bill Clinton has formally nominated — and is, sent to the Senate with FBI checks and all the paperwork — only 80 people. Of those, 50 have been confirmed. President George Bush named 183 to jobs by April 18, with 102 formally nominated. Only 37 had been confirmed. (Of course, the Democrats ran the Senate.) Both Mr. Clinton and Mr. Bush lag far behind the Reagan administration, which had 123 nominated by this time. Cabinet members promise more nominations soon. For example, Attorney General Janet Reno, with only four senior people named so far, said Tuesday that she would announce a nominee for the Criminal Division at the Justice Department "soon." Within a week? "I don't know 'within a week,'" she said, "but it will be a week to 10 days."

Market data table showing Dow Jones (Up 11.61, 3,455.64), Trib Index (Down 0.62%, 99.86), The Dollar (New York, West coast, previous close), and other financial indicators.

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3 Die as Riots Batter South Africa Over Hani Murder

By Paul Taylor
Washington Post Service

SOWETO, South Africa — A day of mourning for the slain black leader Chris Hani turned ugly as youths went on looting sprees in dozens of cities, and the police opened fire on demonstrators here in the nation's largest black township.

At least three people were killed, and hundreds were reported wounded.

It was South Africa's most unruly protest in recent years, but it seemed more likely to accelerate than derail negotiations under way to replace apartheid with a nonracial system of government.

"Every sensible politician realizes that the process must be speeded up," said Cyril Ramaphosa, secretary-general of the African National Congress, which was the principal organizer of the day's rallies. "Failing that, the country will plunge into chaos."

He predicted that key functions of the government, including the police and security forces, would be under multiple control within a few months.

Whatever impetus the protest marches may have given to the talks, the images of destruction from coast to coast raised anew troubling questions about how

much control the advocates of peaceful transition in the black community have over the rage of their young followers.

"What happened in South Africa today cannot be tolerated in any civilized country," said President Frederik W. de Klerk, who announced that 26,000 extra security forces would be on alert through Monday, when the Hani funeral could set off more demonstrations.

In Cape Town, the city hardest hit by the violence, Archbishop Desmond Tutu generally praised the police and denounced the "lunatic fringe" among an uncontrolled throng of mourners — the ones who had smashed downtown store windows, set cars on fire, shot a policeman, knifed a peace monitor, threw a grenade at soldiers and assaulted one prominent ANC official who had been trying to restore order.

The police in Cape Town were unable to confirm that two people had been shot dead in the city, but local newspapers had photographs of two bodies on city streets, The Associated Press reported. Peace monitors said more than 100 people had been wounded, most by policemen who fired birdshot to disperse the rioters.

In Soweto, President Nelson Mandela of the African National Congress had his own difficulties addressing an overflow crowd in a sports stadium.

After receiving a tumultuous welcome, he heard — for him — the rare sound of boos when he tried to strike a note of reconciliation by pointing out that the ruling National Party had been among the groups that expressed sympathy over the killing of Mr. Hani.

"We hate them!" some in the crowd yelled. "We hate them!"

"I understand your anger," Mr. Mandela said. "I don't like the National Party, but I am prepared to work with President de Klerk to build a new South Africa."

When he dismissed the crowd, he urged them to exercise "discipline and restraint," a message he had also delivered twice in special nationwide television addresses since Mr. Hani's killing on Saturday.

The crowd of more than 20,000 — some carrying axes, spears and clubs — marched from the stadium to a nearby police station, where the worst incident of the day unfolded. Three protesters were killed and more than 150 wounded when the police fired from

behind barricades with tear gas, birdshot and live ammunition. The ANC called the firing "unprovoked police brutality," but the police claimed they were under assault from protesters throwing stones and bottles.

The ANC estimated that more than 1.5 million people participated in demonstrations and work stoppages across the country. "Given their sorrow, their grief and their number," Mr. Ramaphosa said, "their behavior was measured."

But the broken shop windows and burned vehicles in such major cities as Durban, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Pietermaritzburg and Blomfontein left many here foreseeing a state of incipient anarchy.

"The ANC is misusing the death of Chris Hani to whip up feelings and to apply the spark to the powder-keg of revolution," said a Conservative Party spokesman, Shaikh Pinar.

Acting Law and Order Minister Terius Delpont said South Africa's modern history had been marred by "mass action gone wrong" and said strong security measures would be taken to deal with the "latent criminality."

WORLD BRIEFS

China Confirms Vietnam War Deaths

WASHINGTON (AFP) — China has provided Washington with documents confirming the deaths of two U.S. airmen whose plane was shot down in Chinese airspace during the Vietnam War on Aug. 21, 1967, the State Department said Wednesday. The identities of the airmen were not revealed.

China turned over photographs showing the pilots clearly had died, as well as photos of their identification cards, Mr. Boucher said. The plane had "inadvertently entered Chinese airspace" and was shot down by Chinese forces, Richard Boucher, the department spokesman, said.

"We had had earlier information from the Chinese that the airmen had died when their aircraft was shot down, but the photos and evidence that we obtained are the first hard evidence that would confirm that," Mr. Boucher said. "I'm told that there are eight Americans listed as unaccounted for in China as a result of the Vietnam War. None of them are believed to have survived their incidents."

N-Watchdog Insistent on Korea Sites

YOKOHAMA, Japan (Reuters) — The International Atomic Energy Agency will not compromise over its demands to inspect two suspected nuclear sites in North Korea, the agency director, Hans Blix, said Wednesday.

"The inspection of the two sites is indispensable," Mr. Blix said. "It is our job to verify their declaration. And if we find more sites that are relevant, then we will ask to see them." He is in Japan to attend an atomic energy conference.

Pyeongyang announced last month that it was withdrawing from the global Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty rather than accept inspection of the two sites, which it says are nonnuclear military facilities. The move heightened suspicions that the Stalinist state had either succeeded in building a nuclear weapon or was on the verge of doing so. North Korea denies any such ambitions.

Pasqua Draws Mitterrand Rebuke

PARIS (Reuters) — France's new conservative interior minister, Charles Pasqua, pledged Wednesday to crack down on rising crime and warned immigrants who faced expulsion if they broke the law. Mr. Pasqua's comments drew a rebuke from the Socialist president, François Mitterrand, the first sign of tension between him and the new center-right government.

"We cannot allow neighborhoods or the streets of Paris to be given over to such violence," Mr. Pasqua told the legislature. He spoke following the recent killings by police of three suspected petty criminals, two of them of African origin. The killings sparked street disturbances in Paris and the north and outraged civil rights groups. On Wednesday, a 15-year-old youth was shot and wounded by police near the northern port of Cherbourg.

Following Mr. Pasqua's statement on Wednesday, a presidential spokesman said that Mr. Mitterrand "expressed reservations" about the interior minister's comments.

Turkey Weighs Pact With Azerbaijan

BAKU, Azerbaijan (Reuters) — President Turgut Ozal of Turkey said Wednesday that his country could form a military alliance with Azerbaijan to fend off attacks by Armenian forces.

"We will take whatever steps are necessary if the fighting between Azerbaijan and Armenia does not stop, including the formation of a military alliance with Azerbaijan," he said in the Azerbaijan capital, Baku.

Mr. Ozal, who earlier this month advocated "baring Turkey's teeth to Armenia," spoke as an attack was reported on the town of Fizuli by Armenian forces, which control 10 percent of Azerbaijan's territory. Turkey, which is linked to Azerbaijan by ethnic and economic ties, has so far avoided military involvement in the conflict.

UN Asks Bonn for Somalia Troops

BONN (Reuters) — Germany, caught in a bruising debate over its new military role, has been asked by the United Nations to contribute troops for humanitarian work in Somalia, officials said Wednesday.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Secretary-General Butros Butros Ghali had written to ask Bonn to send the troops that Germany offered last December. Officials said Chancellor Helmut Kohl's cabinet would probably make a decision next week.

But quick protests from parliament at any Somalia mission raised the specter of another dispute over post-WWII military restraints, less than a week after a court ruling ended a dispute within Mr. Kohl's coalition.

New Iran-U.K. Sparks Over Rushdie

NICOSIA (Reuters) — Iran said Wednesday that a British trade mission to Tehran planned for next month was likely to be postponed because of London's public support for the novelist Salman Rushdie, who has been ordered killed by Iran for alleged blasphemy.

The official Iranian press agency IRNA said damage to Tehran-London relations "could go much further than economic ties" if Prime Minister John Major went ahead with a public meeting with Mr. Rushdie.

The Indian-born author has been in hiding under police protection since 1989, when the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini ordered Muslims to kill him for allegedly blaspheming Islam in his novel "The Satanic Verses."

For the Record

Britain's Conservative government said Wednesday that it would hold a key by-election, an important test of its public support, May 6 in Newbury. It is prompted by the death of a Conservative member, Judith Chaplin, which cut the Conservative majority in the House of Commons to 20.

South African Poles Confront Old Fears

Immigrant's Arrest in Slaying Increases Anxieties of Exiles

By Bill Keller
New York Times Service

JOHANNESBURG — The first worshippers arriving for the Polish-language Easter Mass at the Roman Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception in Pretoria found a banner strung across the door, painted with a warning: "We Will Kill You All for Our Leader."

The threat was immediately understood. Though it was just 24 hours since Chris Hani, the black Communist leader, had been shot dead, there was probably no one among South Africa's 18,000 Polish immigrants who had not heard that the man arrested as the assassin was also a Polish immigrant, Janusz Jakub Walus.

The killing of Mr. Hani, a hero to young township blacks, has set the country on edge, with black and white leaders laboring, successfully so far, to contain the grief and rage.

But for South Africa's Poles this has been a week of special anxiety. For one thing, the killing has stirred old resentments toward an

immigrant community that was embraced — even recruited — by white South Africa, with jobs and full citizenship rights that blacks were denied.

For another, it has forced the Poles, already anxious about their adopted country, to confront the fear they prefer to keep to themselves. It is the fear that evidently drove Mr. Walus, and that lurks in most of those who fled Poland: that they may find themselves again under the rule of leaders who call themselves Communists.

So far, the menacing banner and a few telephone threats have been the only overt signs of hostility, but what worries the Poles is subtler. There are the rhetorical nuances in even well-meaning pleas for peace like the one broadcast Tuesday by Nelson Mandela, the leader of the African National Congress.

"A white man full of prejudice and hate came to our country and committed a deed so foul that our whole nation now teeters on the brink of disaster," Mr. Mandela



Riot policemen opening fire on looters in Cape Town on Wednesday as street protests linked to the killing of Chris Hani erupted.

said, underscoring the accused killer's foreign origins.

And there is the copious, unwanted press attention.

"It is so unfair," said Jerzy Sadowski, head of the Polish Club in Pretoria. "Every story has to point out that he is a Pole and an immigrant. It is almost as if they want to set the hatred of the black people against us."

Waldemar Wojtowicz, a chemical engineer and president of the Polish Association in Johannesburg, called the South African

Press Association to issue a statement deploping the killing, the first time the association had ever raised its head on a political issue.

"We are not happy about it, let's put it like that," said the Reverend Bogdan Wilkaniec, who presides over a Polish parish in Bryanston, a Johannesburg suburb. "But on the other hand, we are visitors in this country. If I will not accept, I will just move out."

Poles migrated to South Africa in two waves, both propelled by fear of communism, both wel-

comed by a government eager to enlarge the white minority.

The first came at the end of World War II, when South Africa gave sanctuary to Polish children orphaned by the Soviet massacre of Polish officers at Katyn and refugees fleeing Stalin's designs.

The second wave, when Mr. Walus arrived, came during the turmoil that led the Polish Communists to impose martial law in December 1981. Again, South Africans were eager to have them, selectively admitting thousands of skilled workers.

"We came here without any prejudice," said Mr. Wojtowicz, the engineer. But if there was little hostility between blacks and Poles, there was also little contact. The natural clannishness of first-generation immigrants was exaggerated by the enforced divisions of apartheid.

In the last few years, a deepening recession has driven many Polish immigrants into unemployment, while the unfathomable violence and the uncertainty of life under a black government has increased their gloom about the future.

A Vulnerable Andreotti Testifies Before a Menacing Senate

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service

ROME — Giulio Andreotti, Italy's elder statesman and emblem of its Machiavellian postwar politics, testified Wednesday before a committee of fellow Senators that is supposed to decide whether to lift his parliamentary immunity from prosecution on the explosive charge of conspiring with the Mafia.

The hearing coincided with new broadsides against Mr. Andreotti from Italian news reporters quoting Mafia informers as saying he had ordered at least one political assassination in the Sicilian mob and had met with the Mafia "boss of all bosses" of the late 1970s, Stefano Bontade.

Mr. Andreotti has denied the charges — dismissed Wednesday by his lawyer as "vile" — and has insisted that he is the target of a Mafia vendetta because of the stern anti-mob legislation passed during some of his seven prime ministerships.

But the hearing nonetheless deepened a sense here that an old order is rapidly disintegrating.

The legitimacy of the country's postwar political system and of many of its leaders has already been stripped away by the nation's vast corruption scandal, which has implicated hundreds of politicians and business leaders, including Mr. Andreotti and the former Socialist prime minister, Bettino Craxi.

The charges against Mr. Andreotti, moreover, threaten to raise the specters of many of Italy's unresolved and unwholesome political mysteries, including the enigmatic 1978 death of former Prime Minister Aldo Moro.

Yet the 23-member Senate panel, in its closed-door hearing Wednesday night, also offered Mr. Andreotti a chance to display his hallmark political dexterity: If the committee decides he has no case to answer, the current investigations into his purported Mafia ties must cease forthwith. If the committee finds against him, the full Senate must then vote on the case.

In recent weeks, investigators have said senior Mafia informers told them that Mr. Andreotti was the mob's political protector from the late 1970s to 1992,

when his last prime ministership ended following setbacks for his Christian Democrats in the general election a year ago. Since then he has been a life senator in Parliament.

This week, though, the Mafia informer Tommaso Bucarati, who is living in the United States under a witness protection program, was said to have accused Mr. Andreotti of ordering the mob's 1982 murder of the anti-Mafia crusader General Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa.

According to Italian news reports, moreover, General Dalla Chiesa and the journalist Mimmo Fico were killed in 1979 because they were aware of information that Mr. Moro had given his captors while a prisoner of the Red Brigades.

The information was said to relate to another of Italy's perennial mysteries, concerning an anti-Communist underground army code-named "Gladio," whose existence was revealed by Mr. Andreotti only in 1990 after the collapse of communism.

"I now learn my client is accused of ordering the

murder of Dalla Chiesa, Pecorelli and even Aldo Moro," Mr. Andreotti's lawyer, Odoardo Ascarei, said Wednesday. "These accusations are vile."

Another Mafia informer, Francesco Manacola, also living in the United States, was said to have accused Mr. Andreotti of actually meeting with Mr. Bontade, the Mafia boss, once, in 1979, when he was prime minister. Mafia association is regarded in Italy as a serious crime.

Italians are to vote in a referendum on electoral reform on Sunday that will effectively be a ballot on four decades of power politics that has bled in Europe's biggest postwar corruption scandal.

The leader of the main group seeking a "yes" vote, Mario Segni, urged the country's 47 million voters on Wednesday to register at least a 60 percent ballot for change in order to ensure that the reform movement maintains momentum.

A "yes" vote in the referendum would end the system of pure proportional representation for three-quarters of the upper-house seats and create pressure for similar changes in the lower house.

In a Turnabout, Yeltsin Says He Now Wants to Visit Tokyo

By David E. Sanger
New York Times Service

TOKYO — In a dramatic sign that Russia is trying to repair its badly damaged relations with Japan, President Boris N. Yeltsin hopes to come to Tokyo next month on a trip that he abruptly canceled last year, his foreign minister told Japanese officials Wednesday.

In a meeting with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, Foreign Minister Andrei V. Kozirev proposed the visit but reportedly said little about the issue that scuttled Mr. Yeltsin's trip in September. Japan's insistence on some progress on the territorial dispute over four of the Kuril Islands that were seized by the Soviet Union at the end of World War II.

Mr. Yeltsin's sudden cancellation, only four days before his scheduled arrival, was viewed in Japan as a diplomatic slap in the face, and led to a surge of opposition to granting more aid to Mr. Yeltsin's government.

But Japanese officials concede privately that Mr. Yeltsin is in no better political position to talk about the eventual return of the islands now than he was last

year — and they say it is still unclear how the trip could be termed a success if no progress is made on resolving the issue.

Japan and the former Soviet states have yet to sign a peace treaty ending World War II, and fully normalizing relations, because of the continuing territorial disagreement.

Nonetheless, Japanese and American officials suggest, scheduling Mr. Yeltsin's state visit here could turn out to be one of the most tangible and immediate benefits from the Group of Seven meeting of foreign and finance ministers that started here Wednesday.

The announcement of Mr. Yeltsin's suddenly renewed interest came after President Bill Clinton told him at the Vancouver summit meeting two weeks ago that it was critical for Russia to improve its relations with Japan, at a time that the United States is trying to press Tokyo to be a larger player in the Russian aid package.

After weeks of domestic debate over how much aid to offer Russia while there is no progress on the islands issue, Mr. Miyazawa announced at the start of the emergency aid meeting of industrialized nations that

Japan would commit itself to a package of \$1.8 billion, including about \$320 million in grants, the largest amount of outright cash and goods it has ever sent to Russia.

The remainder of the package is largely made up of trade insurance and export credits that will permit Russia to buy goods, mostly Japanese equipment and services. Much of that part of the package is aimed at the reconstruction of Russia's energy industry.

Japanese officials say that rebuilding and restarting Russia's oil pumping equipment would provide Mr. Yeltsin with much-needed hard currency, but they also acknowledge that Japan may also be a major customer for the Russian oil.

Previously Japan had committed to \$2.7 billion in aid to Russia, but only about \$800 million has been dispensed, largely because of what Japanese officials term "confusion" in Russia over dispersing it.

A senior Japanese official said Wednesday that it was not yet clear exactly when Mr. Yeltsin's trip would be scheduled, "or if it would carry any conditions."

That appeared to be a reference to Japan's biggest concern: That the trip might be contingent on a quiet

agreement that Mr. Yeltsin would not be pressed for immediate progress in returning the islands.

At the time of the cancellation, Mr. Yeltsin feared that any move to surrender Russian territory would be exploited by nationalists, further weakening his precarious position.

But for Mr. Miyazawa, whose popularity at home is already dipping to dangerously low levels, it would be almost impossible to allow Mr. Yeltsin to visit without applying some clear pressure on the islands issue.

Still, how much Japan would demand is unclear, now that its policy is clearly changing, moving toward a removal of the linkage between aid and progress on the islands negotiations.

In his speech Wednesday at the G-7 meeting, Mr. Miyazawa made no reference to the islands dispute, even jorging the usual code words that Japanese officials often use about a Russian foreign policy based on "justice."

But Mr. Miyazawa did say that "it is incumbent upon the international community to send a clear message that it expects Russia's reforms to be pursued irreversibly."

TRAVEL UPDATE

Saint-Tropez Seeks Aid After Storm

SAINT-TROPEZ, France (AFP) — The mayor of Saint-Tropez, Alain Spada, has called on the government to proclaim the resort a disaster area after it was hit by a freak windstorm, the town hall here said.

Officials Wednesday described the storm as a mini-tornado that cut a swath across an area two kilometers long and 100 meters wide. Several sailboats in the port sank, the roof of the town swimming pool was riddled with holes, hundreds of trees were destroyed and several celebrity villas were damaged.

Uprooted trees blocked access to the seaside property of Brigitte Bardot, and a dozen century-old pine trees were destroyed in the garden of the villa where Colette lived, officials said. Mr. Spada said damage was in the millions of francs.

Plots for Japan Air System Co., the nation's third-largest airline, went on strike Wednesday to demand a pay increase, forcing the cancellation of 262 domestic flights, a company spokesman said. Unions for the nation's biggest airline, Japan Air Lines, began a partial strike Wednesday, but no airline services were affected; unions for the second carrier, Air Nippon Airways, called off a walkout after accepting a wage offer, company officials said.

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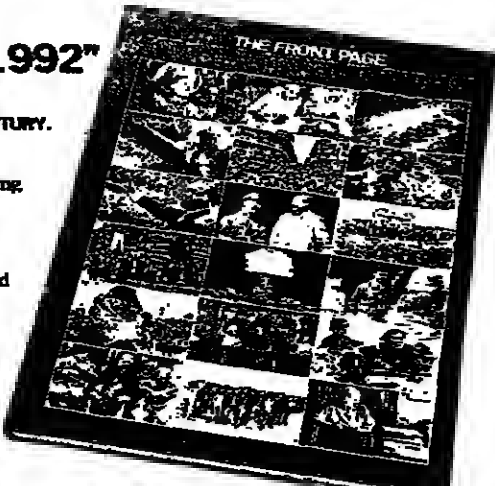
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FIRST 100 DAYS / POSITIVE PROGNOSIS

Majority of Doctors Back Clinton's Health Care Plans

By Adam Clymer
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — A majority of American doctors are sympathetic to President Bill Clinton's basic approach to a health care overhaul even though they fear that it would cost them money and limit their authority, a new poll indicates.

The poll, conducted by the Times Mirror Center for the People and the Press, was the first survey of doctors that dealt with current proposals on health care. It found that 64 percent say they believe that the U.S. health care system needs "fundamental changes," compared with 10 percent who think it has to be "completely rebuilt" and 24 percent who say it needs "only minor changes."

Then, after the poll interviewers had described Mr. Clinton's favored approach, "managed competition," 38 percent of the doctors said they had a positive view of such a system and 40 percent said they had a negative view.

Under managed competition, large groups of individuals and employers would buy a standard package of health benefits from health-maintenance organizations and other networks of doctors and hospitals, or buy insurance that would provide the "fee for service" benefits that most policies own offer.

The poll entailed telephone interviews with 408 doctors across the country from March 15 to 26. The margin of sampling error was plus or minus five percentage points.

This poll was different from most surveys of doctors in that the respondents were not paid to participate. Such payments, virtually unheard of in most public-opinion polling, are usually provided to doctors because poll takers have found that many will not answer questions except for money.

In general, the poll presented an image of a dissatisfied, embittered profession. Along with a sense that the health care system needs "fundamental changes," the doctors made clear that they had little confidence that either Congress or the president's Task Force on National

Health Care Reform, headed by Hillary Rodham Clinton, would produce "wise recommendations" about how to change it.

Twenty-four percent offered hope for wise choices from the task force, and 14 percent from Congress. Sixty-two percent said they were confident that the American Medical Association would have good recommendations.

The reasons the doctors gave most frequently for their conditional support of managed competition were that they thought it would improve access to health care while preserving patients' choice of doctors and competition among doctors.

The doctors had several reservations about managed competition. Among doctors who had heard about it before the interview (90 percent of the sample), 72 percent said they expected their incomes would decrease if it were adopted.

Seventy percent said they expected that doctors would not have

"an adequate say" in deciding what the basic insurance package would cover, and 82 percent said they would have less freedom to decide what treatment was in the best interest of their patients.

Abortion Coverage
The Clinton administration plans to include coverage for elective abortions in the basic package of medical benefits guaranteed to all Americans under the health care reform proposal now taking shape, the Los Angeles Times quoted

sources as saying in a report from Washington.

Although some members of the task force have expressed fears that abortion coverage could jeopardize support for the overall health care plan, the dominant feeling is "there is no choice" but to cover abortion because President Clinton has clearly staked out his position on the subject, said one source involved in the process.

"The feeling is that this man has committed himself to making abor-

tion available and secure as a legal right, and it's something that a health care system has to include," one source said. "My sense politically is that it would cause more problems if it wasn't in there than if it was."

Task force members believe that opponents in Congress can eventually be won over by the argument that many private plans already cover abortions, and, for the most part, federal funds will not be used to pay for it, another source said.

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Away From Politics

• Inmates of an Ohio prison holding eight guards hostage after an uprising hung a banner from a cellblock window threatening to kill a guard if their demands were not met. Seven inmates have been killed, at least six by fellow prisoners. Early, a police helicopter circling the prison crashed in a field across the street. The pilot and an official suffered minor injuries. But an officer who rushed to the crash site slipped and broke a leg.

• A pair of pliers got wedged in a Discovery rocket booster and was not discovered until the boosters were retrieved from the Atlantic Ocean after lift-off. NASA said that the pliers, 8 to 10 inches long, posed no danger during lift-off. They were lodged in a cavity on the outer skinning at the base of the rocket. A technician for Thiokol Corp. noticed his pliers were missing April 2, almost a week before the launching.

• A Japanese drug company was ordered to pay \$1 million in damages to a woman who became ill from taking L-tryptophan, an amino acid substance it produced. But the California jury decided Betsy Dir-osa, 42, was not entitled to additional punitive damages because she was partly to blame in continuing to take the product even after she knew it could be dangerous. Tryptophan causes sleepiness in humans. It is found naturally in foods and milk. L-tryptophan was genetically produced by Showa Denko from bacteria and used as a sleeping aid. Showa Denko recalled it in November 1989 after questions about its safety. About 4 million people had taken it before 35 deaths and 1,200 poisonings were linked to it.

• James Dean Clark, 35, a drifter convicted of four murders, was put to death by lethal injection in the Arizona penitentiary, a prison spokesman said. He was convicted in 1978 of killing Charles Thomas, 65, a ranch owner, his wife, Mildred, 62, and two ranch hands, George Martin Jr., 51, and Gerald McFerron, 17, on Dec. 4, 1977.

• Fresh research on AIDS supports previous conclusions that the chance of contracting the virus from infected doctors or dentists is extremely remote. More than 2,500 patients were treated by two AIDS-infected surgeons and a dentist without catching the virus from them, according to studies appearing in The Journal of the American Medical Association.

• Most high school students are unfamiliar with the word Holocaust, which has come to be used to refer to the killing of millions of Jews by Nazi Germany, the American Jewish Committee said. Fifty-three percent of the U.S. students and 38 percent of adults questioned in a recent poll were unable to define the word, the committee said.

• States should crack down on drunk boating, require children to wear life jackets at all times on the water and consider mandatory training and licensing for boat operators, The National Transportation Safety Board said.

• Sudden and unexpected deployment of wing slats on a new McDonnell Douglas MD-11, not turbulence, caused a China Eastern flight to pitch violently last week over the Aleutian Islands, killing one passenger and injuring 160 others, the National Transportation Safety Board said.

Reuters, AP, W.P.



FORTIFICATIONS IN LOS ANGELES — Joe Kim, owner of a repair shop in the Koreatown area of Los Angeles, directing a workman how to install razor wire above his business premises. A new outbreak of rioting is feared when the jury announces its verdict in the Rodney King trial.

POLITICAL NOTES

Black Democrat Wins Mississippi Election

JACKSON, Mississippi — Bennie Thompson, a liberal Democrat, turned back a surprisingly strong bid by a conservative Republican to win the congressional seat vacated by Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy.

Mr. Thompson, who is black, got 54 percent of the vote in the mostly black district to turn back an early bid by Hayes Dent, 31, a white former aide to Governor Kirk Fordice.

Returns from 390 of 393 precincts gave Mr. Thompson 71,432 votes, or 55 percent, to 58,508, or 45 percent, for Mr. Dent.

The voter turnout on Tuesday exceeded by more than 5,000 the number of votes in the first round of the special election, in which Mr. Dent led a field of eight candidates.

Mr. Espy, who was elected in 1986, became the first black to represent Mississippi in Congress since 1884. He was re-elected three times.

(NYT)

Job Corps May Not Always Be Welcomed

WASHINGTON — Even before President Bill Clinton's national service program has been formally proposed to Congress, public service professionals are making it clear that young people eager to participate by working on public projects in exchange for school tuition aid are not welcome everywhere.

Police groups have told Washington officials that they do not want them walking their beats. Teachers are not eager to have them in their classrooms. Unions caution that they must not take worker's jobs. But administration officials profess to be undaunted by the resistance, arguing that opportunities for national service workers remain plentiful.

As the president describes it, the program would offer high school or college students or both a chance to pay some college tuition costs or repay student loans by being the foot soldiers for administration initiatives, such as child-immunization programs, education and inner-city projects. The idea, billed as a domestic Peace Corps or civilian GI Bill, was a cornerstone of Mr. Clinton's campaign. (LAT)

Harvard Aide Nominated for Security Post

WASHINGTON — The White House announced the nomination of Ashton Carter, director of the Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University, to be assistant secretary of defense for nuclear security and counterproliferation. "In Ashton Carter, we will have an experienced and expert assistant secretary focusing on the problems and seeking solutions," President Clinton said.

Stuart E. Eizenstat, former domestic policy adviser in the Carter administration, is headed for Brussels to be the U.S. ambassador to the European Community, where he can deal with important trade matters.

And in another appointment, David Aaron, deputy national security adviser of President Jimmy Carter, was named ambassador to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. (WFP)

Quote / Unquote

Attorney General Janet Reno, on a conversation with the interim federal prosecutor about an investigation of Representative Dan Rostenkowski, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee: "I told him if there was anything he needed, full steam ahead." (AP)

'A Little Goose' for Economy

Clinton Seeks to Ease Impasse on Jobs Bill

The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton said Wednesday that his \$16.3 billion jobs bill was designed to "give a little goose" to the economy and help young people make the transition from school to summer jobs.

Calling the legislation "a small part of a big budget," Mr. Clinton said it would nevertheless help cut the unemployment rate by a half-percentage point and generate 700,000 summer jobs.

"I don't have all the answers but I do know this: Doing nothing is not the answer," Mr. Clinton said in a reference to a Republican filibuster that has stalled the bill in the Senate. Republicans have argued that the bill would unnecessarily increase the federal deficit.

Speaking at a summer jobs conference, Mr. Clinton said his economic stimulus plan was "an attempt to engage in an experiment to see whether or not, with the

economy recovering because of corporate profits, we can give a little goose to it, give opportunities to young people, create a half a million jobs and maybe get the engine going again."

The White House also is stepping up pressure on a few Republican lawmakers as it tries to dislodge the jobs bill from the Republican filibuster. The president sent statements Tuesday to the home states of six Republican senators urging them to "break the gridlock in the Senate."

He called on the senators to put "constituents back to work" by breaking party ranks to end the filibuster, which has blocked a Senate vote on the jobs bill.

At the same time, the White House spokesmen, George Stephanopoulos, cited specific building projects and summer jobs that he said would be jeopardized if the jobs package was not enacted.

Meanwhile, the House minority leader, Robert H. Michel of Ill-

nois, and other House Republicans criticized the plan anew on Wednesday.

"When you get beyond simply accelerating public works or summer jobs, beyond that you tell me where there's one additional job created," Mr. Michel said.

"If the president wants summer jobs, let him pay for it," said Representative Thomas D. DeLoach, Republican of Texas.

The comments came at a news conference at which Mr. Michel and others announced nationwide town meetings that House Republicans will hold on Saturday to attack Mr. Clinton's deficit-reduction plan.

The six Republican senators named in Mr. Clinton's more pointed printed statements were James M. Jeffords of Vermont; William S. Cohen of Maine; Alfonse M. D'Amato of New York; William V. Roth Jr. of Delaware; and Mark O. Hatfield and Bob Packwood of Oregon.

White House Weighs Sending Small Military Force to Haiti

By Art Pine
Los Angeles Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration is considering sending a small contingent of United States troops to Haiti, mainly to help with reconstruction efforts, if the United Nations succeeds in brokering a settlement that would restore democracy to that nation.

The plan, described by senior American officials, was disclosed as the special UN envoy, Dante Caputo, resumed negotiations with Haiti's military-backed government in hopes of securing agreement for the return of democratically elected president, the Reverend Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

It was not immediately clear whether Mr. Caputo would win agreement from the Haitian generals this time, but both the United Nations and the Clinton administration have said they are confident that a solution is near.

Although U.S. troops, initially fewer than 100, would be limited to noncombat roles, strategists said they hoped Washington's apparent willingness to dispatch them would help prod the generals to sign an accord soon.

One of the current Haitian government's remaining concerns is that its generals might fall prey to street mobs if the army relinquishes power without any safeguards. The hope is that the presence of U.S. troops on the island would have a calming effect.

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OPINION

INTERNATIONAL **Herald Tribune**

Serbia Is Sowing Disgust

Has it occurred to their leadership that Serbs are generating an immense reservoir of international disgust and disrespect that cannot fail to color the way they will be regarded when the Yugoslav war finally subsides? The latest such perverse "investment" in a narrow future consists of renewed artillery attacks by Bosnia's Serbs on the near helpless, largely Muslim cities of Sarajevo and Srebrenica. The Muslim-led Bosnian government has in mind nothing but surrender; this is to a considerable extent the practical meaning of its acceptance of the Vance-Owen peace plan. But still Bosnian Serbs gun keep pounding away, killing women and children and otherwise pursuing the purposes of ethnic cleansing in stark defiance of that imperfect, lowest-common-denominator plan.

As a gesture meant to cover the deeper reality of NATO's consensus decision to stay out of the war in Bosnia. At the same time, the United States postponed a UN decision on tightening sanctions on Serbia. This one hurt. The Clinton administration acted for cause: sparing Gorbachev in a crucial referendum coming up on April 25, the embarrassment of a vote on Serbia. But the postponement can only increase the Bosnian Muslims' sense of abandonment and the Bosnian Serbs' sense of being given a free military hand. At the very least the United States must see to the urgent repositioning of Bosnia's food stocks, which are reported to be running low. It must canvass any new possibilities of establishing safe havens for imperiled Bosnians. It must convey to the Serbs that any plans they may have to launch a wider spring offensive—either to complete ethnic cleansing in Bosnia or to launch new military adventures in other parts of the old Yugoslavia—will earn Serbs deeper contempt and isolation for years to come. That may not be the greatest practical deterrent, but it is better than entirely abandoning the field.

The Burden Is on Hanoi

The long smoldering issue of unaccounted-for American prisoners from the Vietnam War has flared anew. Hanoi has only its long history of duplicity on the POW issue to blame for this latest ambush of its hopes for more normal ties. If the latest document to emerge from Soviet archives proves accurate, the process of normalization will have to be postponed yet again. No American interest in Vietnam ranks higher than keeping faith with the families of these missing servicemen. In January, a Harvard researcher studying archives of the Soviet Communist Party in Moscow came upon a document that purports to be a 1972 report from a senior North Vietnamese general. It declares that Hanoi actually held 1,205 American prisoners then, more than three times as many as the 368 it acknowledged. A year later, following the Paris peace agreements, North Vietnam released 591 prisoners. Both Hanoi and the Nixon administration declared that no Americans had been left behind. But there has always been room for doubt. The Pentagon still lists some 2,200 servicemen as formally unaccounted for, although it presumes that more than half of these actually died during the war. It is possible that Hanoi held hundreds of additional undisclosed Americans—even possible that, as Zbigniew Brzezinski, the former national security adviser, now hypothesizes, most of these were summarily executed sometime in the 1970s. But there are sound reasons to investigate the new document carefully before jumping to such conclusions. Communist archives are notorious for disinformation and forg-

eries. Details about the names, background and treatment of some of those listed do not match other, authenticated information, although some of this could be the result of successive translations. And a careful Senate investigation last year narrowed the number of cases still in serious doubt to between 100 and 200. That makes 600 additional prisoners seem dubious. Washington now must try to determine the accuracy of the new document. The purported author is alive and accessible in Hanoi, where he heads an official veterans' group. As it happens, President Bill Clinton's special envoy, retired General John Vessey, was already planning to travel to Hanoi in the next few days to evaluate current Vietnamese cooperation on the POW issue. Given Hanoi's past duplicity and concealment, its explanations cannot be accepted uncritically. But in recent months Vietnam has shown a new cooperation toward American investigators, opening up archives whose very existence it had previously denied. The Vietnam War saw cruelties committed by both sides. But America long ago subjected its behavior to public scrutiny, and has benefited from the results. Vietnam remains a closed political system whose rulers wrap their deeds in secrecy, inviting skepticism and ambush by chance documentary finds, accurate or not. Before normalization can proceed, Hanoi will have to provide a satisfactory explanation of the new document. Only when Hanoi opens up politically will outsiders be able to trust its word without demanding proof.

Watch the Rising Yen

It is a Washington ritual. The American trade deficit with Japan hits a new record, and a meeting is arranged between the president and the prime minister. The president says sternly that the deficit is too large and has to come down. The prime minister says politely that no doubt there is blame on both sides and the Americans themselves are going to have to get to work on the remedy. (Both, incidentally, are correct.) Then they shake hands affably for the photographers and part. What happens to the trade deficit? So far, not much. This routine is now as rigidly stylized as Japanese No drama. Perhaps things will be different when Prime Minister Kiishi Miyazawa comes back this week for his first meeting with President Bill Clinton, but don't count on it. If the deficit begins to fall in the coming months, as it may well do, it will not be because of international meetings or trade policy. It will be because of the changes that the Clinton administration is beginning to make at home. It is always a pity to spoil the fun by introducing economics into a political quarrel, but there are two axioms to keep in mind. When a country is a net lender to the rest of the world, as Japan is, it will always run a trade surplus. And when a country is a borrower, as the United States is, it will always run a trade deficit. That is not deep economic theory but merely bookkeeping. The trade flows are the counterparts of the financial flows. If the United States wants to end its trade deficit, it will have to stop living on money borrowed abroad. That requires not only bringing down the federal government's huge budget deficits but also reducing private borrowing to levels that can be financed by domestic lenders. Things are starting to move in that direction. Japan's foreign lending is down because of a severe recession at home. In America, borrowing public and private, is at least no longer rising. You can already see results, working through the exchange rates. The yen has risen by nearly 10 percent against the dollar since early February. In response, to take the example of automobiles, Toyota, Nissan and Honda have all raised their prices (in dollars) this year—Honda twice. The Wall Street Journal reports that the Japanese auto manufacturers are shifting production to the United States and increasing their use of American components. The Japanese companies' share of the American market for passenger cars fell to 27 percent in the first three months of this year, compared to 30 percent a year earlier. The rising yen can do a lot more than political deals to reduce the world's biggest trade deficit.

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Other Comment

Not Merely a Bad Joke
Russian Khasbulatov told a meeting of war veterans on Tuesday that the START-2 treaty must be presented "by a foreign minister who deserves the respect and trust of society," and that "until we have such a minister, I think it is simply absurd to talk about the START-2 treaty." This is part of a propaganda campaign against President Boris Yeltsin. By insisting on dismissal of Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev as a condition for ratification, Mr. Khasbulatov threatens the United States with jeopardizing an extremely important accord. Linkage of global interests with personal ambitions sounds like a bad joke, but our parliament knows how to turn jokes into reality.

Europeans Show the Way
Other industrialized countries have succeeded far better than the United States in controlling rising health care costs. Between 1982 and 1989, six big European countries actually reduced the proportion of the gross domestic product spent on health care. Professor Brian Abel-Smith of the London School of Economics studied these countries' success. The key, he concluded, is a government effort, through regulation or strict budgets, to limit supply, not demand—the supply of doctors, hospital beds and medical technology and procedures. The U.S. government must regulate the growth of medical technology.

South Africa: Hani's People Need Hope and a Leader

CAPE TOWN—Time will show whether the gunning down of the charismatic left-wing leader Chris Hani will speed the process to democracy in South Africa. There is a good chance that it will. The country is bracing itself for racial unrest—the local equivalent of what happened in parts of the United States after the assassination of the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. Immediate horrors notwithstanding, there is reason to believe that the murder will have a cathartic effect on both whites and blacks, concentrating the minds of all on settling differences before the streets are strewn with the bleeding bodies of their leaders. There has always been a potential for a Lebanon in this land of racial contrasts and inequalities. That scenario would see significant black and white leaders cut down by assassins if the country headed toward civil war and chaos. But violence so far has been mainly in regions of Natal and Transvaal provinces—although the death rate nationally is about 10 a day. This is not to say that political assassination—including that conducted by death squads linked to the white Nationalist government—has been unknown. But it was largely directed against lesser lights and second-rung leadership, and against some who were destined to make it to the top, like Steve Biko, who was beaten to death in detention by police in 1977. Mr. Hani's death changes that pattern, and takes the danger of assassination to the inner spectrum of political organizations currently close to a breakthrough in negotiating a democratic order. Calls to radio talk shows have reflected an ominous deterioration in public attitudes, with some whites saying that Mr. Hani got what he deserved and warning that others might follow, and some militant blacks calling for revenge. Mr. Hani, although a known target for

By Anthony Hazlitt Heard
assassination, was refused police protection on the flimsy sounding grounds that he had no official position in the country. But he was a crucial cog in the peace machinery. The government will now be under immense pressure to protect the lives of those engaged in the delicate and dangerous negotiations. Mr. Hani, although previously known as a hard-line Communist, had increasingly thrown his weight behind the peace effort. His conciliatory stance just before his death, roundly condemning extremist black groups that have been killing white motorists, made an indelible impression on public life. His death could galvanize forces for peace and negotiation as could no other event. I saw Mr. Hani in 1991 at a news conference in Durban, where he came across as eloquent, highly intelligent and a peace-maker. He spoke matter-of-factly about his task as military commander of ANC guerrilla forces in years past. He had a job to do, in how he put it. Now the task was negotiation and peace. A mark of the respect in which he was held by friends and foes is the deluge of tributes nationally and internationally. He had risen above the crudity of armed struggle. Once the demonstrations over his death subside, interest will center on whether the assassination will jolt the main players in negotiations to push ahead, or whether there will be a faltering in momentum. The point is whether nonracial elections will, in fact, be held next year. There are grounds for believing that the democratization process is irreversible, and that there is no way back to apartheid and repression—unless right-wing military hotbeds stage a coup, which would surely be brief and unsuccessful. So there is no real choice for South Africa

but to plod ahead to democracy. The economy requires political reform and stability before it can effectively address rapidly growing unemployment and education, housing and other needs of the masses. The masses were Mr. Hani's army, whom he could control. If there is an early political settlement, the economy could regress beyond the point of repair. In that case the extreme forces, who would love to tear down the peace barricades and pitch the country into civil and racial war, will inherit that army of the hopeless and unemployed. Mr. Hani was the person most suited to taming the excesses of the masses, particularly the impoverished and embittered youth. He did this with a gusto and sincerity that surprised many of his opponents. He had made the quantum leap from class revolution to all-around stability. In that sense, his "communism" was far removed from the violent and revolutionary doctrines of that ideology. Someone else will now have to take on the unenviable task of general secretary of the Communist Party and tamer (or inflamer) of the masses. The future of the country will largely depend on whether those masses can play a constructive role in a democratic future—or whether they are whipped up into violence that would rank with Cambodia's killing fields.

The writer, a former editor of the Cape Times in Cape Town, is author of "The Cape of Storms." He contributed this comment to the Los Angeles Times.



Missteps in Somalia, but Overall the Operation Is Encouraging

WASHINGTON—Harry Conde is a U.S. Marine Corps gunnery sergeant, an individual trained to be one of mankind's most efficient killers when the circumstances demand. In the dusty streets of Mogadishu two months ago, Sergeant Conde thought those circumstances had arrived. Before he shot and wounded 13-year-old Ahmed Abdi Omar, the sergeant was an American hero feeding starving Somali children. He and his mates in Operation Restore Hope were the New World Order writ small in human terms. The sergeant had had his hands in the fabric of international relations beyond the cold war. Today he is a convict, his career in jeopardy and his pride in being part of a new American approach to peacemaking and humanitarian action shattered. That transformation began in the few seconds it took for Ahmed, an accomplished street thief, to reach Sergeant Conde's patrol vehicle and for the gunnery sergeant to blast away at the youth with an M-79 grenade launcher. The sergeant had been told that Ahmed was a terrorist. If that sounds like overreaction to you, that is the way it must have

By Jim Hoagland
sounded to the U.S. court-martial that convicted Sergeant Conde of aggravated assault, busted him one grade in rank and fined him a month's pay on April 6. Young Ahmed, who underwent surgery after the blast, had reached into the American military vehicle, grabbed the sunglasses that Sergeant Conde was wearing and jumped back. The sergeant said he did not immediately realize what had happened and fired in fear of a terrorist attack. The court-martial panel implicitly rejected that claim, but gave Sergeant Conde a mild punishment in recognition of his previously unblemished record. What caught my eye in the account of the trial filed in The Washington Post by Africa correspondent Keith B. Richburg were two related points, one made by the defense lawyer, Captain Stephanie Jennings, the other by Mr. Richburg. They are points that have not been widely discussed but that touch on bigger questions facing American military planners and com-

manders in the ambiguous and messy conflicts that are replacing all-out war in Europe as likely arenas for the use of U.S. force abroad. It was unfair, Captain Jennings argued, "to send marines to Somalia—trained marines—and expose them to the dangers out there" and not expect them to respond as they have been trained to react in dangerous settings. "There is combat-like danger there every day." Sergeant Conde's case, Mr. Richburg added, "encapsulates the tensions and dangers that U.S. troops face as their mission here has shifted from feeding the starving to acting as an urban police force." The Conde case does raise a larger issue. If the United States is going to commit its large military establishment to future humanitarian or peacemaking operations, should the Pentagon retain and re-equip some combat units for such duty, rather than following the present ad hoc approach that helped put Sergeant Conde in trouble's way? And if America takes that

step, should it then earmark or assign those units to a United Nations command to avoid both the image and the responsibilities of America playing world policeman? These questions are being debated in the corridors of the United Nations, at the most prestigious think tanks in America and Europe and at international gatherings such as the recent Trilateral Commission meeting in Washington. The Trilateral discussion, attended by senior UN and U.S. officials, reflected a broad consensus within that influential elite that peacemaking has to be redefined and redesigned for a world no longer held in the mold of bipolar superpower confrontation. Somalia may help provide some answers as well as questions. A UN command will shortly take over the difficult follow-on tasks of keeping order and trying to rebuild civilian institutions for that African country. But 5,000 or so American troops will stay to provide the core of the UN force. This is an opportunity, not a loss of sovereignty or some other calamity to be decried. A small U.S. force will be left in an essentially noncombat situation operating under a UN command subject to a U.S. veto in the Security Council. U.S. involvement is necessary to give this new UN force credibility, experience and leadership. America in turn will be able to help shape the new forms of international intervention that a changed world may require. That will not be much consolation for Sergeant Conde or for Ahmed. What comes next in Somalia will not undo their tragic encounter. But America's continuing, softer involvement in Somalia may provide some valuable experience in avoiding such incidents in the future. The fact that the shooting and the trial were treated as news in its own way testimony to the success of Operation Restore Hope. It produced little violence against Somalis and few missteps by a 25,000-person U.S. force. In Somalia, the Pentagon resisted the dangers of mission creep—gating pulled into local quarrels and taking on expanding, unaffordable responsibilities. It is a success that deserves recognition and encouragement.

'Afghanis' in Egypt, Back for a Drama With an American Twist

CAIRO—After securing Egypt's peace with Israel and then jailing many of his real or imagined opponents, President Anwar Sadat boasted in September 1981 of the planedoms of arms that American aircraft had ferried from Egypt to the anti-Communist guerrillas in Afghanistan. The operation to help the mujahidin, Mr. Sadat said proudly, was for "our Muslim brothers in trouble." Could there not be an adverse payback, his television interviewer asked, from helping Muslim fundamentalists? Had not some of the Egyptian volunteers and thousands of other young Arab and Muslim trainees holy warriors been involved in terrorism? No, Mr. Sadat answered. They held meetings, but they did not use arms. Less than three weeks later, a fundamentalist Egyptian army lieutenant, Khalid Isambouli, and his fellow fundamentalist conspirators gunned down Mr. Sadat. They did it, they said, because he was a tyrant, had made a "treacherous peace" with Israel and had betrayed Islamic principles. In August 1983, William Casey, President Ronald Reagan's CIA di-

By John K. Cooley
rector, flew to Cairo to see President Hosni Mubarak. His mission was to ensure that Mr. Mubarak would continue Mr. Sadat's cooperation in supporting the mujahidin, by now a multibillion-dollar operation. Mr. Casey was successful. Recruiting and fund-raising centers were opened in the West as well as in the Muslim world. One, the Brooklyn Afghan refugee center known to local Arabs as the "Jihad Office," was frequented by Mahmud Abolmoham, a World Trade Center bombing suspect arrested in Egypt and handed over to U.S. agents last month. A few days ago I was able to watch the opening of the retrial in absentia of Sheikh Abdel Rahman, who is now awaiting the outcome of his appeal against deportation from the United States. The retrial opened in Fayoum, the sheikh's hometown. A defense lawyer claimed that the Mubarak government, destruction of which Sheikh Abdel Rahman had de-

manded in the sermons his followers smuggle from the United States back to Egypt on cassettes, wanted his client back. Not so, insisted another defense attorney. The retrial, for offenses on which the sheikh and his followers were already acquitted once, was simply a pretext to finally pass sentence and so discourage his return to Egypt. The strange accident by which Sheikh Abdel Rahman got his U.S. visa in Sudan (a mistake by an inexperienced vice-consul in Khartoum, says the United States) is disbelieved by many Egyptians who think that the United States admitted him deliberately, since he had helped the CIA in Afghanistan. Critics of the sheikh seem to hope that somehow U.S. justice will link him to the World Trade Center bombing and punish him in America. Others, worried about Islamic extremists who practice terrorism in Egypt, play down his role. "You are talking about a man," says the Egyptian author and veteran editor M. H. Haykal, "limited in his knowledge and experience... a man who does not see. He can be a good preacher. But I do not think he can organize, plan or really lead." Besides, in Egypt's Sunni brand of Islam there is no place for a Khomeini-like imam with temporal powers. The degree to which the sheikh might rise from his present role to become a serious, charismatic challenger for power depends, in Egyptian eyes, on how skillfully or otherwise America handles him. Meanwhile, governments in the West, Egypt and the rest of the Arab and Muslim world must acknowledge that the men they trained to be skilled professional terrorists and saboteurs during the Cold War in Af-

ghanistan are now a threat to them. As a result, the "Afghanis" as they are known, are often arrested if they return to Egypt in order to prevent them from joining the extremist Muslim groups. In Algeria, they lead the insurgent Islamic Salvation Front that is fighting the army and secular politicians to install an Islamic state. In Tunisia, President Zine Abidine Ben Ali struggles with the partly Afghan-led Islamic Renaissance movement, whose members crowd the country's courts and jails. In Jordan, to say nothing of the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Islamic activist movements draw inspiration from the Afghan example. For the United States, one drawback of being the world's only superpower is that it is presented with a bill for attaining that status. Every operation becomes an item on that bill. Winning the Cold War might not have been possible, former Cold Warriors might argue, without enlisting Islamic zealots to help drive the Soviet military out of Afghanistan. The problem is that the same Islamic zealots have other targets, too: Western secularism, Israel, ineffective and often corrupt Arab governments, and the social and economic conditions that those governments have not adequately confronted. Only political, social and economic solutions hold the real answers to violence, whether it is committed in the name of religion or of secular creeds. Tracking down the bombers and assassins is only a first step.

Tax Breaks for Tobacco Advertising?

NEW YORK—Life in the last half-century has been confounding for those people who manufacture and sell cigarettes. Their product went from being an accepted part of daily life to a suspected carcinogen to the most reviled legal substance in America. But now their position should be quite clear. Tobacco companies fall into a separate and distinct category of business because they produce and market a product that has no redeeming value and that causes serious illness and death. Five years ago, when the American Bar Association considered—and rejected—a proposal that it endorse a ban on all tobacco advertising, one member described cigarettes as "uniquely perilous." America's national policies should reflect that: not just health policies, but fiscal policies as well. One of the most interesting of these is the plan to cut or entirely eliminate the tax deductions that tobacco companies receive for the cost of their advertising. Senator Tom Harkin, who wants to cut the deductions and use the revenues for both deficit reduction and counter-advertising, says taxpayers are unaware that such deductions even exist. But the fact is that cigarette companies spend billions of dollars each year to advertise and promote their products, and take a huge deduction for those costs. Tobacco company executives insist that they use advertising only to get smokers to switch from one brand to another and not to snag new younger consumers to

By Anna Quindlen
replace those who have died untimely deaths. Of course, these are the same people who not so long ago wanted you to believe that there was no link between lung disease and smoking. Veracity is not their brand name. But they are savvy, and in the debate about tobacco advertising they push a genuine American hot button, that of free speech. The tobacco companies even have the American Civil Liberties Union on their side. (It should be noted that the ACLU has accepted contributions from cigarette manufacturers, which the organization insists has no bearing on this issue.) Ira Glasser, the ACLU's executive director, says it is simply wrong to provide deductions for some businesses but exempt others because you do not like the product. "You can't pick and choose," he says. "You can't make a distinction based on what is produced." Sure you can. Government is in the business of making distinctions—between the income taxes paid by those who earn \$30,000 a year and those who earn \$300,000, between a company that can dispose of garbage and how it can dispose of toxic wastes. By instituting so-called sin taxes on alcohol and tobacco, it surely makes a distinction between products that it considers dangerous luxuries and all others. Mr. Glasser says that this is a slippery slope, that red meat and eggs could be next. But you can

argue that those foods have clear benefits if eaten in moderation. No one argues that there is any benefit to tobacco except to the tobacco companies, who are among the most profitable industries in America. In recent years, members of the Senate have voted down proposals to eliminate tax deductions for cigarette advertising costs, often invoking the free speech argument. But the cause is more likely the millions of dollars that tobacco companies give in political contributions. "They have a right to free speech," says Senator Bill Bradley, who has led efforts to eliminate deductions for cigarette advertising. "They do not have a constitutional right to a tax deduction." So many anti-smoking efforts have focused on the individual consumers, proposing taxes on their single packs while the companies grow ever richer. Restaurant sections, smoke-free offices, sin taxes—they have all focused on the little guy. That is always easier than taking on the corporations. Sure, smokers have made personal choices. And they pay for those choices every day, whether sitting through an airline flight dying for a smoke, or dying for a smoke in the oncology wing of a hospital. The tobacco companies have not paid nearly enough for the killing, and that is because they have too often been treated like everyone else. Their product is "uniquely perilous" and should be given unique stature—or lack of same.

The writer, an ABC News correspondent based in Cyprus, specializes in the Middle East and Eastern Mediterranean. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1893: A Coup in Serbia

PARIS—Those who are well acquainted with the East, and with the Balkan Peninsula, are quite right in holding that events may always be expected in those countries, and that grave events are never so near at hand than when peace and quiet appear likely to last some time. No-one in the world would have expected the coup d'état carried out yesterday morning [April 14] by the sixteen-year-old King Alexander of Serbia, and least of all the Regent who has been caused to be arrested. Nevertheless, the revolution was accomplished by noon; its characteristic feature was that it was made by a King in the cause of liberty of his subjects. The motives of the young sovereign are most laudable.

1918: American Resolve

NEW YORK—Americans fully realize that Germany is trying to end the war by a final blow, first to the British

and then to the French armies on the western front. The great battle is watched with profound attention. But Germany must not suppose that any victory won by her would force America to acquiesce in an unjust peace. There is complete confidence in French and British valor, but thoughts take an ill turn this would be only one more reason why America would be compelled to fight on.

1943: Japanese Air Raid

SOMEWHERE IN AUSTRALIA—[From our New York edition.] A strong force of Japanese bombers and fighters, estimated officially at between 75 and 160 aircraft, struck at noon yesterday [April 14] against an Allied base on the southeastern tip of New Guinea, in the third heavy Japanese raid in 17 days on Allied positions in the south-west Pacific. As in previous raids the Japanese met a fiery reception. Thirty enemy planes were shot out of action by Allied interceptors and anti-aircraft defenses.

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OPINION

Washington Should Get Out Of the Sociology Business

By George F. Will

WASHINGTON — The "urban crisis" is, by now, a hardy perennial. In 1968, Glamour magazine carried an editorial entitled "The Urban Crisis: What Can One Girl Do?" By then the federal government was on the job, doing things.

The 1960s were bad enough the first time around.

ly transmitted diseases, public schools, violence and other crimes are all worse. Last Sunday, Henry Cisneros, the new secretary of HUD, was asked on television why it was reasonable to expect Washington to do any good. He said, among much else, this:

"I think one of the things America has to address very, very squarely is whether or not we can live with continued vast spatial separations between the poorest of our populations, concentrated in public housing in central cities, and the vast differences that exist across our urban geography to the suburbs, which are essentially white. What we've got to do is break up the concentrations by making it possible for people to live in newly designed, thoughtfully scaled public housing, negotiated with outlying communities, because many of the problems ... are a symptom of large concentrations of poor people with few role models and no lift."

One's heart sinks. The 1960s were bad enough the first time around. Government, having exacerbated problems by concentrating the poor in public housing, is going to redouble its efforts with more, better public housing, thereby conquering the spatial separations of the social classes. This is a 1960s impulse.

In the '60s there began the explosive growth in the number of subjects considered political and suited to government attention. Perhaps this had something to do with Mr. Johnson being the first president to have spent virtually his entire adult life in Washington. By the end of the '60s, Pat Moynihan was worrying about the increasing introduction into politics and government of ideas originating in the social sciences, ideas that promised to bring about social change through manipulation of society's most basic processes. This was, he said,

part of a transformation of politics: "Not long ago it could be agreed that politics was the business of who gets what, when, where, how. It is now more than that. It has become a process that outcomes as who thinks what, who sets when, who lives where, who feels how."

But even then there was a growing sense of governmental overload. "How one wishes," Nathan Glazer wrote in the mid-1960s, "for the open field of the New Deal, which was not littered with the carcasses of half successful and hardly successful programs, each in the hands of a hardening bureaucracy." Nearly 30 years on, how one wishes government would at least learn the lesson formulated by Mr. Glazer's academic collaborator, Professor Moynihan: "The role of social science lies not in the formulation of social policy but in the measurement of its results."

The aroma of fresh-baked, or perhaps half-baked, social science hovers over Mr. Cisneros's idea of combating spatial separations by means of "newly designed, thoughtfully scaled" public housing projects. He knows the requisite 1990s rhetoric — "I know we can't go back to the big bureaucracy answers of the 1960s" — but when explaining what should be done he stresses better uses of Washington bureaucracies: "We think in terms of how we bring together the Department of Education on schools, and the Department of Health and Human Services on child care and welfare. We change the rules."

Better rules from Washington. Back in the '60s, Mr. Moynihan, too, thought that government should pull up its socks, square its shoulders and do better. "Government has got into the business of promising more than it knows how to deliver; as there is little likelihood of coming back on the promises, the success of the society turns in its ability to improve its performance. It is probably not a good thing to have got into this situation, but the social dynamics of an industrial society everywhere seem to lead in this direction, and to do so with special vehemence in the United States."

But is improved government performance really more likely than more judicious promises? Performance and promising are linked. Injudicious promises like Mr. Cisneros's drive government into disappointing performances.

As this is written on April 13 the nation is celebrating the 250th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson, and waiting to see if Los Angeles will burn yet again. For perspective, remember that Jefferson considered cities "pestiferous" at a time when America's largest city, Philadelphia, had approximately 55,000 residents. About as many as today live in Rapid City, South Dakota.

Washington Post Writers Group.



"I hear the cold part of the Cold War is over."

Polluters Should Listen to Wagner

By Fred Plotkin

NEW YORK — Richard Wagner's cycle "Der Ring des Nibelungen," a richly allegorical Rhine River epic that for comedians is only about screechy soprano warrior-goddesses in helmets and breastplates, is surely a morality tale about protecting the world from environmental disaster.

MEANWHILE

who examined it during the Industrial Revolution, which profoundly changed the earth, saw it as a parable about the collapse of capitalism and emergence of a classless society.

For Greens, Wagner's Rhineland has scarcely been plowed. Today, with every oil spill, Tomsk-like nuclear disaster and extinction of a species, the earth creeps closer to "Götterdämmerung" (Twilight of the Gods) — the end of the world that Wagner depicted at the close of the cycle.

Wagner knew you don't fool with Mutter Nature. In the "Ring," he tells us that in the short term man's power can be used to subdue Nature but that ultimately Nature will rise up and man will perish. Throughout the cycle, the idea recurs that a price in misery and chaos is paid for every environmental desecration.

The metaphor is the theft of the magic gold from the Rhine by the evil dwarf Alberich — an act of tampering with the natural balance. When made into a ring, the gold gives the wearer absolute power

but it also bears a curse: Every owner of the ring meets a tragic end, and the longer the gold is absent from the Rhine, the more the earth decays.

At the end of the cycle, its heroine, Brunnhilde, chooses to set the world on fire, destroying gods and the Nibelungs — the subhuman species who lived in the earth and were enslaved by Alberich — rather than permit the desecration to continue. The Rhine overflows its banks, extinguishes the flames, reclaims the gold and restores the ecological order.

Central to Wagner's environmentalism are "Ring" characters that represent earth, water, fire and air. These characters, all Cassandras, repeatedly warn the gods of the disaster that results from greed and the lust for power. They speak for the planet, whose power is greater than that of any individual.

The principal adviser to the chief god, Wotan, who is Master of the Universe, is Erda, or Mother Earth, a god who literally rises from the soil to prophesy that the natural order will be destroyed unless the stolen gold is restored to the Rhine. Water itself and the Rhine Maidens, who protect the gold and in the end reclaim it.

Loge, the god of fire, is not so much a pyromaniac as the only freethinker among all the politically correct gods, who toe Wotan's line. His repeated warnings about returning the gold to the Rhine are ignored.

The air is represented by three birds. The Ravens of Wotan (named Thought and Memory) circle the world in search

of danger to their master. The gentle Forest Bird instructs the heroic Siegfried, Wotan's grandson, how to reclaim the gold from evil hands.

Siegfried, earnest, nature-loving, hungry for knowledge, is willing to fight the good fight.

Nature is opposed by Alberich and Wotan, who represent the ruthless pursuit of power over the world. Alberich symbolizes society's lawless elements, outsiders who create disaster for personal gain. An insider such as Wotan, the leader of society — who stole the ring from Alberich — is as single-minded as Alberich in the pursuit of self-interest. With both characters, Wagner says the threat to the world can come from without or within.

In the "Ring," Nature reclaims what it gives. Wotan was not born with knowledge and power: He received them from Yggdrasil, the Tree of Life, which stands atop the sacred fountain of wisdom. At the end of the cycle, this tree is part of the kindling that sets the world alight.

The close of the "Ring" — the "Twilight of the Gods" — which Wagner says takes place at the beginning of time, sees the return of harmony in Nature. As time begins, the world, finally rid of the power-hungry gods, is entrusted to humans.

Wagner's "Ring" insists that we are the earth's custodians, not its masters.

The writer, who is completing a book entitled "Opera 101," was performance manager from 1983 to 1988 at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, where a presentation of the "Ring" cycle will begin on Monday. He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Lament for Chris Hani

Last Feb. 19, during a visit to South Africa, I had a long meeting with Chris Hani, secretary-general of the South African Communist Party, in the party's modest offices in Johannesburg. After what I had heard from whites and blacks alike, I had expected him to be rather dogmatic, ideologically rigid and perhaps embittered. Instead I found him to be flexible, pragmatic and relaxed, with a strong sense of what was feasible.

He was, of course, critical concerning the enormous prosperity gap between blacks and whites. He was in favor of reforms. The landless should get land, he said, and there must be democratization. He said he wanted a multiparty system: "We are aware of the weakness

of the Soviet system. What we want is a nonracial South Africa."

There has to be some nationalization, he said; the main criterion should be whether a particular industry would perform better if nationalized. Workers must take part in decision-making. Private ownership would be maintained, but people must be protected against unscrupulous exploiters. The health system must be radically improved.

I am sad about the death of Chris Hani. He had impressed me as far-sighted, sensible and intelligent, wanting to help lead South Africa into a peaceful future. He was not a man of violence and hatred. I was shocked when I saw him lying in his own blood. I thought of his intelligent, mild, alert and ironic eyes, eyes that seemed perhaps slightly tired from an endless fight. I hope that Chris Hani will not be followed by somebody who will stir class and race warfare and help push South Africa into chaos.

ARMAND CLESSE, Director, Institute for European and International Studies, Luxembourg.

All Aboard for Bosnia

In response to Anthony Lewis ("Clinton Could Rally Americans Behind Intervention in Bosnia," Opinion, April 6), I wonder why the same factors that should lead President Bill Clinton to send troops to Bosnia — "resolve, courage, determination" — do not compel Mr. Lewis to go there himself.

The same could be said for Robert B. Goldmann and others who have written similar articles urging vague, emotionally satisfying military responses to the Balkan crisis. Not only do these articles present irresponsible war mongering instead of reasoned arguments, they are usually written by people who won't have to go to ex-Yugoslavia themselves, or take the responsibility for what happens when they get there.

GRAHAM CRAFT, Brussels.

North Korea Withdraws

Unfortunately, from the strictly legal point of view not much can be done to force North Korea back to the Nuclear

Nonproliferation Treaty. The treaty allows withdrawal if a party decides that certain events have jeopardized its security. The withdrawing state must give notice to all other parties and to the United Nations three months in advance. This requirement has been met.

Withdrawal is not equivalent to nuclear proliferation. In other words, only political means ought to be resorted to. North Korea must be persuaded by its few remaining friends that it has much to lose and very little to gain, if anything, by going nuclear.

JOZEF GOLDBLAT, Geneva.

Bring On the Vaccines

Regarding "Drug Companies See Threat in Vaccines Plan" (Political Notes, April 3):

Growing up in New York City in the late 1920s and early 1930s, I suffered every illness a child could get for the lack of vaccines that at the time did not exist or were not in general use. Two of my friends died, another got polio, and I

missed the better part of fourth grade because of whooping cough, measles, chickenpox, cowpox, throat infections, and heaves knows what else.

To read about President Bill Clinton's program for buying vaccines for all children being put down by the drug manufacturers because they might lose some money in having to give a discount to the government is simply awful.

America needs the coming generation and those that follow to be healthy and able to eventually join the work force to maintain a strong and vigorous country. So I say, go for it, Bill Clinton.

JAMES B. FLEMING, Romanswiller, France.

The 24,000-Mile Stare

The business report "Seoul Starts Looking Eastward for Trade" (March 30) says the South Koreans are expanding trade with China and Southeast Asia. Strange that they should look eastward for such trade.

JENS ALERS, Hong Kong.

Advertisement for the International Herald Tribune. Headlines include: UN air patrols over Bosnia, Tension in South Africa, The future of Hong Kong, The coming Russian referendum, Japan-EC-US trade tensions. It features a large '44%' discount off the newsstand price and a subscription table with rates for various countries.

Advertisement for the Santiago de Compostela pilgrimage. It features a map of the pilgrimage routes and text describing the journey: 'In Santiago de Compostela pilgrims find their rewards on earth as well as in heaven. The Pilgrim Routes to Santiago still have much to offer. From the Pyrenees, you could strike south through La Rioja, or west passing through Pais Vasco, Cantabria, Asturias and Galicia. Each of the routes providing an abundance of unforgettable art and architecture. Like the beautiful 11th century cathedral at Jaca and the great gothic cathedrals in Burgos and Leon. For those intent on keeping body and soul together, the passage through the culinary delights of the Basque Country and Spain's wine-producing regions is a constant joy. And, as the weary pilgrim finally enters the lush landscape of Galicia, the legendary local seafood provides a climax to the longest-established "tourist" route in Europe.'

Khmer Rouge Deal A Major Blow to Cambodia Accord

Agence France-Press
PHNOM PENH — The Khmer Rouge pullout from the Cambodian capital and a new attack on peacekeepers raised fears of war here Wednesday and prompted fresh talks among the architects of the Cambodian peace accord.

A spokesman for the United Nations mission, Eric Berman, said the UN was working "day and night" to introduce "day and night" to introduce new security measures for its field workers and volunteers throughout the country.

Mr. Berman said that UN workers had been ordered out of district-level posts in the two most troubled provinces of Kompong Thom and Stiem Reap, as the Khmer Rouge blew up a major bridge and wounded a Malaysian peacekeeper in overnight attacks.

In Indonesia, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, speaking after the Khmer Rouge had abandoned its compound next to the Royal Palace in Phnom Penh, called the withdrawal "a serious development."

Mr. Alatas said he and Foreign Minister Alain Juppé of France would discuss the implications of the pullout for the planned May 23-to-27 elections in Cambodia. Indonesia and France are joint leaders of the Paris conference on Cambodia.

In the Cambodian capital, UN officials were pessimistic after the abrupt withdrawal on Tuesday of the Khmer Rouge leader, Khieu Samphan, and his delegation.

"This reminds me of when countries withdraw their ambassadors before they attack," said one senior UN official.

Officially, the United Nations mission here says there is no reason to believe the withdrawal signals the likelihood of a major Khmer Rouge attack.

Japan and Australia had both said they would consider withdrawing their UN contingents from Cambodia in the event of an all-out attack by the Khmer Rouge.

Mr. Berman said there had been "no word, no reports, no reason to believe" that the Khmer Rouge was planning a major attack on UN personnel.

He said UN volunteers who are working as electoral workers would come to Phnom Penh for a week of briefings during the next few weeks.

About 150 volunteers met with the UN mission's chief, Yasushi Akashi, late Tuesday to express concern about security.

Mr. Berman described as "a temporary measure" the withdrawal of electoral workers from Stiem Reap and Kompong Thom, emphasizing that the pullout did not mean polling would not take place in those provinces.

Electoral workers in 10 of the remaining 17 districts have been told not to leave their posts without armed escort, he said.

Fears for the volunteers' safety follow the murder of a Japanese electoral worker in Kompong Thom last week.

In an overnight attack Tuesday, one peacekeeper was injured near the western city of Sisophon. A Khmer Rouge guerrilla was killed and another wounded in the fighting.

In Kompong Thom, the Khmer Rouge for the second time blew up a vital bridge linking the province with Phnom Penh. Mr. Berman said the Khmer Rouge used anti-tank mines to blow up the bridge, which they first destroyed in October.

Rabin Eases Stand on Palestinian Role at Peace Talks



Mr. Mubarak gesturing toward Mr. Rabin as the two addressed reporters Wednesday in the Egyptian town of Ismailia.

By Chris Hedges
New York Times Service

ISMAILIA, Egypt — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel, after meeting with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, said Wednesday that if Palestinians agreed to resume the peace talks, he would lift the government ban on negotiating with Palestinian representatives from East Jerusalem.

Mr. Rabin said he would be willing to allow Faisal Hussein, the coordinator of the Palestinian peace team, who lives in East Jerusalem, to join the negotiations. The inclusion of Mr. Hussein would end the longstanding Israeli policy designed to ensure that the status of East Jerusalem, annexed by Israel in 1967, remains unchanged.

"On the issue of Faisal Hussein being head of the Palestinian delegation," Mr. Rabin said after meeting Mr. Mubarak, "once I learn the Palestinians accept that he will head the delegation, I will make a statement."

He said he would then propose to the Israeli government "that a member of the delegation registered in the territories, but who also has an address in Jerusalem, can be a member."

The meeting with Mr. Mubarak, who governs the only Arab nation that is at peace with Israel, followed talks Tuesday between the Egyptian president and Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization. Although neither the Israeli nor the Egyptian leader went into details, they said they had gone over Palestinian proposals to resume the talks after a four-month delay.

The peace talks, which began in Madrid 17 months ago, have been suspended since December, since Israel's deportation of 415 Palestinians that Israel said were involved with violent Islamic groups.

Mr. Mubarak said the foreign ministers from Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and the Palestinians would meet in Damascus on Friday and Saturday to determine if they

would resume the peace talks, scheduled for Tuesday.

"There are very great hopes that the talks will be held in Washington on this date," Mr. Mubarak said, "and this will be decided in the meeting that will take place in Damascus."

Mr. Rabin also expressed optimism that the talks would resume. "After meeting with the president I am much more hopeful, I stress hopeful," Mr. Rabin said, "that the peace negotiations will be resumed."

The two leaders, said by aides to have a good personal relationship, spent most of the morning together. The spoke without interpreters in English and later shared a lunch.

Syrian, Jordanian and Lebanese officials have all expressed interest in reopening the talks. But they say they will not begin negotiations again without the Palestinians.

"We discussed, first how to bring about the resumption of the peace negotiations," Mr. Rabin said, "second, how to make sure that once they resume they will continue to lead to results."

Mr. Arafat, who although banned from the talks is in practice directing the negotiations, set out a list of demands in his meeting with Mr. Mubarak on Tuesday.

These included a return of Palestinians deported since the 1967 war, a lessening of restrictions on Palestinian self-rule and an agreement that the moves towards self-rule will not be reversible. He has also asked that the deportees in Lebanon be allowed to return and that the restrictions placed on travel by Palestinians from the occupied territories into Israel be lifted.

"President Mubarak brought expectations that exist in the Arab world regarding the required steps to continue the peace talks," he said. "We discussed these things. We clarified them."

Mr. Rabin, although not agreeing to lift the travel restrictions, imposed after a series of killings, said that "gradually the number of Palestinians that will be allowed to return to work in Israel will be increased."

For his part, President Mubarak backed up the Israeli position, agreeing that concessions can only come once peace talks start.

"We are not here to find concessions from either side," he said. "Such things take place during negotiations, not before."

Mr. Rabin hinted that several concessions demanded by the Palestinians might be possible if the talks resumed. He appeared to suggest that Palestinians deported since 1967 could return home.

"We had in the past a readiness to do something," he said, when asked about the deportees exiled since 1967.

Bush Receives Triumphant Welcome on Kuwait Visit

The Associated Press
KUWAIT — Schoolgirls with flowers and Kuwaiti sword dancers welcomed former President George Bush on Wednesday in his first visit to the emirate since Iraqi troops were driven out by U.S.-led forces more than two years ago.

Thousands of Kuwaitis cheered Mr. Bush, who scored perhaps his most significant political triumph with victory in the Gulf War.

The festivities began as soon as Mr. Bush's special Kuwait Airways jetliner touched down at Kuwait International Airport.

He smiled and shook hands with Kuwait's

emir, Sheikh Jaber al Ahmad al Sabah, then hugged and kissed two young flower girls.

Drums sounded the beat for whirling sword dancers, and people cheered as Mr. Bush was escorted along a red carpet to the airport VIP lounge for official photos with the Kuwait ruler.

The airport grounds were strung with hundreds of American flags and the green, white, red and black banner of Kuwait.

The former first lady, Barbara Bush, told Kuwaitis, "I am very happy to be in your country."

Thousands of Kuwaitis lined the highway to

cheer the former president's motorcade. They included schoolchildren, who have been given a holiday to participate. Many carried small American flags, balloons and signs.

After a lunch at Al Bayan Palace, the Bushes were scheduled to attend a special ceremony at which the former president would be presented with Kuwait's highest civilian honor.

Mr. Bush's arrival was delayed one day because of an airplane malfunction upon departure from Houston.

Former Secretary of State James A. Baker 3d and the former White House chief of staff, John H. Sununu, also have made the trip.



U.S. SOLDIER FOUND GUILTY — The grieving mother of a slain South Korean has hoisted outside a courtroom in Seoul after a U.S. Army private's conviction Wednesday for the young woman's murder. The court sentenced Private Kenneth L. Markle 3d, 26, to life in prison.

Ozal Accuses Russia of Aiding Armenia

New York Times Service
BAKU, Azerbaijan — President Turgut Ozal of Turkey accused Russia on Wednesday of deep involvement in the fighting between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Mr. Ozal said Turkey would do all it could to preserve Azerbaijan's independence and might conclude a military alliance with the government in Baku.

"Russian transport planes increased their flights to Yerevan substantially before and after the Armenian aggression on Kelbajar," Mr. Ozal said Wednesday in a joint news conference with Azerbaijan's president, Ayaz N. Mutalibov.

Referring to Turkish intelligence sources, he said he did not think the planes "were carrying just humanitarian aid."

As a show of solidarity with Azerbaijan, Mr. Ozal announced that all communications and transportation links between Armenia and Turkey had been severed and would remain so until Armenia withdrew from all occupied territory in Azerbaijan.

His allegation of Russian involvement in the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan appeared to be confirmed by information supplied to senior foreign diplomats who were invited to listen to battlefield intercepts of radio transmissions between Armenian forces in the Kelbajar region.

The intercepts indicated that captured soldiers and fleeing civilians might have been massacred and buried in mass graves before international relief workers arrived in the area.

The Russian-speaking diplomats met with Western reporters on Wednesday to describe the tape-recordings. They said they had been allowed to choose at random from hours of material consisting of native Russians speaking "military jargon," others speaking Russian with an Armenian accent and Armenian translated and dubbed in Azeri Turkish.

"The Russian-language material was standard combat talk about things like coordinates for artillery fire along mountain roads and directives to supply trucks coming from Armenia," one of the diplomats said. He stressed that although it was clear to him that the Russians were professional soldiers, it was impossible to tell whether they were mercenaries or units of the former Seventh Soviet Army, based in Armenia.

The material allegedly translated

from Armenian into Azeri Turkish was of a different nature and suggested an attempt to execute survivors and hide the evidence.

"The translated tapes had commands like 'kill the prisoners' and 'bury them 10 meters deep' before a man by the name of Gregorovich arrived from 'the big town' with foreign visitors," the diplomat said.

President Ozal said Wednesday: "It is impossible to see the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan as limited to Karabakh any longer.

It is perfectly clear that Armenia plans to create a 'greater Armenia' out of Azeri lands.

Turkish officials privately acknowledge that despite Ankara's pretensions to be a regional power in the Caucasus, there is little Turkey can do except impose sanctions on Armenia and ban international aid from crossing its territory and airspace.

Earlier statements by Mr. Ozal that Turkey had to "show its teeth" in the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict

have been regarded by observers as counterproductive. They say that this would rekindle the image of Turkish persecution of Armenians.

The use of military force against Armenia by Turkey is not seen as an option because of the defense pact between Armenia and Russia.

Azerbaijanis assert that Russia wants to destabilize the pro-Turkish government in Baku, citing recent official statements from Moscow about traditional Russian spheres of influence.

G-7: U.S. Allies Largely Cool to American Requests for More Russian Aid

(Continued from page 1)
 new private Russian industries, but only if the allies supplied a combined \$1.5 billion.

The money would be used to modernize industry and to provide training for laid off workers. Social services once offered by state factories would be subsidized during a transition period in which schools and hospitals pass to local government control. American officials

described the program as the most innovative of the bilateral proposals.

The allies are expected to respond to the initiative sometime before the July G-7 summit meeting of government leaders, again in Tokyo.

They may not be easy to persuade. Klaus Kinkel, Germany's foreign minister, noted that Germany had provided billions of dol-

lars in assistance to Russia, and it was not clear that further money might come from Bonn. "Now it is the others' turn," he told German interviewers.

Douglas Hurd, Britain's foreign secretary, tied aid to continued Russian cooperation to peace efforts in Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as the withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltic states.

An Italian delegate pointed out

that several hundred millions of dollars of old credits to Russia remained unused, implying that Italy would recycle the leftovers in presenting an aid package.

Mr. Clinton is actively lobbying Congress to back his new aid package, and a show of reluctance from the G-7 may harm the effort, American officials said. "We have to show we are all in this together and willing to put domestic problems behind us," one official said.

NUNS: Pope Says Auschwitz Convent Must Be Vacated

(Continued from page 1)
 diocese of Bielsko-Biala, where the convent is located, that the sisters had agreed to move.

He believed the nuns would be out of the convent within a few weeks. Mr. Sulmasy said the convent was no longer demanding that the nuns leave before Monday.

The convent at Auschwitz has been a problem in Jewish-Catholic relations since 1987, when Catholic

cardinals and Jewish leaders met in Geneva and agreed that the nuns should move to a new Judeo-Christian center and convent to be built some distance from the camp.

In 1989, a New York City rabbi, Abraham Weiss, organized a protest against the nuns by breaking into their convent and scuffling with workmen whom the nuns had hired for renovations. After the incident, Cardinal Jozef Glemp of Poland denounced the "anti-Po-

lishness" of Jews and their "power over the mass media."

The new center and convent have been completed for some months, but the nuns had refused to move to there. This prompted Rabbi Weiss to threaten another demonstration and made the World Jewish Congress contemplate the boycott.

A Polish Jewish writer, Konstanty Gebert, said Wednesday that the Vatican appeared to have acted after realizing the consequences of demonstrations at the convent this weekend.

Mr. Gebert said that if Rabbi Weiss staged another demonstration at the convent, local anti-Semitic supporters of the nuns, known as the Committee for the Protection of the Carmelite Nuns, would come out and counterattack.

"Jewish demonstrators being attacked at Auschwitz," Mr. Gebert said, "Can you imagine the headlines! I really think that got the Vatican moving."

Iraqi Foes Report Baghdad Unrest

Reuters
LONDON — An Iraqi opposition organization said Wednesday that Iraqi authorities had moved 30,000 troops into position around Baghdad to curb unrest.

The Iraqi National Congress, a London-based opposition group, said the government had thrown up roadblocks and was

conducting armed patrols and house-to-house searches.

Earlier, travelers from Iraq said that senior Iraqi officials had been arrested and executed and that security forces were laying siege to parts of Baghdad after gunmen tried to kidnap the interior minister. They said there were explosions and casualties in the city.

conducting armed patrols and house-to-house searches.

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CANDLE: Lights at Clinton's White House 'Campus' Are Burning at Both Ends of Day

(Continued from page 1)
 owls for scheduling a health-care meeting for 8 to 11 P.M. on Saturday.

Since the Clinton crew arrived in January, the White House mess has extended its dinner hours to accommodate the new working habits — even though carry-out pizza remains the food of choice for most of the staff.

One young White House aide, familiar with the rhythms of the Clinton campaign, thought it would be good if the health club housed in the New Executive Office Building could stay open until 10 P.M. to give people a chance to get in their exercise after work.

It was a nice idea, and the health-club management agreed to give it a try, on the condition that more people be recruited to join the club to help cover the additional costs required by the longer hours. The test period was a utter failure. The eager beavers worked so late that

they failed to take advantage of the offer.

The president has a well-known allergy to sleep. He would rather stay up and read or gab or watch movies than hit the sack. But even he knows the danger of such habits to his administration, having once admitted that he was more prone to make mistakes when he was tired.

Clinton recently told the television newscaster Dan Rather that he tried to catch up on his sleep with occasional naps. "In all of my adult life, six hours is about the most I've ever slept, except when I was really exhausted," Mr. Clinton said. "Now it has to be the least I sleep. I confess that I need a little more sleep now that I have taken on this job."

Asked if he were a morning or a night person, Mr. Clinton gave the kind of answer that makes the staff quake. "A little of both," he said. "That's the problem."

His staff is left to deal with his habits. Some of them apparently feel duty bound to keep up — or at least be up and at their desks in case he calls late at night.

Not the White House chief of staff, Thomas F. (Mack) McLarty, however. According to other White House officials, he sets a good example by leaving between 7 P.M. and 8 P.M. The communications director, George Stephanopoulos, leaves about 8 P.M. He is usually in by 6:30 A.M.

No one directly blames the president, of course, but he has contributed to the sleep deprivation in another way. "There's a lot of work to be done, and Clinton cut the White House staff," Mr. Read said. "So everybody has to sleep 25 percent less."

One can dispute the actual size of the cut in the White House staff, but there is no question that sec-

ond-tier aides are being stretched thin. If they cannot find a volunteer or an (even younger) intern to take up some of the slack, they have to do the work themselves. During the transition, one adviser, Harold Ickes, asked two campaign aides if they were responsible for proposing the 25 percent staff cut. When they acknowledged involvement, he told them: "Good, you can do the extra work because you won't have any help."

The undisputed late-hours champ in the White House is Gene Sperling, the young deputy to Robert E. Rubin, head of the New National Economic Council. Mr. Sperling is usually the last to leave the West Wing, departing his second-floor cubicle around 1 A.M. His only competition is Ricki Sedman, a deputy communications director, who has also developed a reputation for late nights at her desk.

Wallace Stegner, a Chronicler of the West, Dies

The Associated Press
SANTE FE, New Mexico — Wallace Stegner, 84, a writer who celebrated the spirit of the American West in his novels and essays, died Tuesday of injuries suffered in a traffic accident.

Mr. Stegner, of Los Altos Hills, California, was injured March 28 while in Sante Fe to give a speech.

He won the 1972 Pulitzer Prize in fiction for "Angle of Repose." In 1977, he won a National Book Award for "The Spectator Bird."

In a publishing career that spanned more than 50 years, he celebrated the courage and optimism of the pioneer spirit and the beauty and vastness of the West.

But he rejected the most superficial aspects of the Western myth — that its inhabitants were all rugged individualists in chaps and Stetsons.

"The idea that the West was all cowboys falsifies the life and social arrangements I knew, which were more prosaic and ultimately more serious than the myth," he

said. Cooperation mattered more than self-reliance in the rugged West, he added.

He was nominated for the National Book Critics Circle Award this year for a collection of essays, "When the Bluebird Sings to the Lemonade Springs: Living and Writing in the West."

One of his most popular novels was "The Big Rock Candy Mountain," a work from 1943 about a man's unsuccessful efforts to succeed in the West.

He had a long career as a teacher

of writing and literature at the universities of Utah and Wisconsin, and at Harvard and Stanford.

Klaus Piltz, 57,
Head of Veba Group
BONN (Reuters) — Klaus Piltz, 57, chairman of the Veba AG, Germany's fourth-largest industrial group, was killed in an avalanche Monday while skiing in Austria, Austrian officials said Wednesday.

Mr. Piltz, along with his son Klaus, 18, and daughter Uta, 20, lost his life in the avalanche.

السوق العالمية

NASDAQ Wednesday's Prices

NASDAQ prices as of 4 p.m. New York time. This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded securities in terms of dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

Table of NASDAQ stock prices with columns for 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, and High/Low/Last/Chg.

Table of NASDAQ stock prices with columns for 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, and High/Low/Last/Chg.

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Table of NASDAQ stock prices with columns for 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, and High/Low/Last/Chg.

AMEX Wednesday's Closing

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

Table of AMEX stock prices with columns for 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, and High/Low/Last/Chg.

Table of AMEX stock prices with columns for 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, and High/Low/Last/Chg.

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Table of AMEX stock prices with columns for 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, and High/Low/Last/Chg.

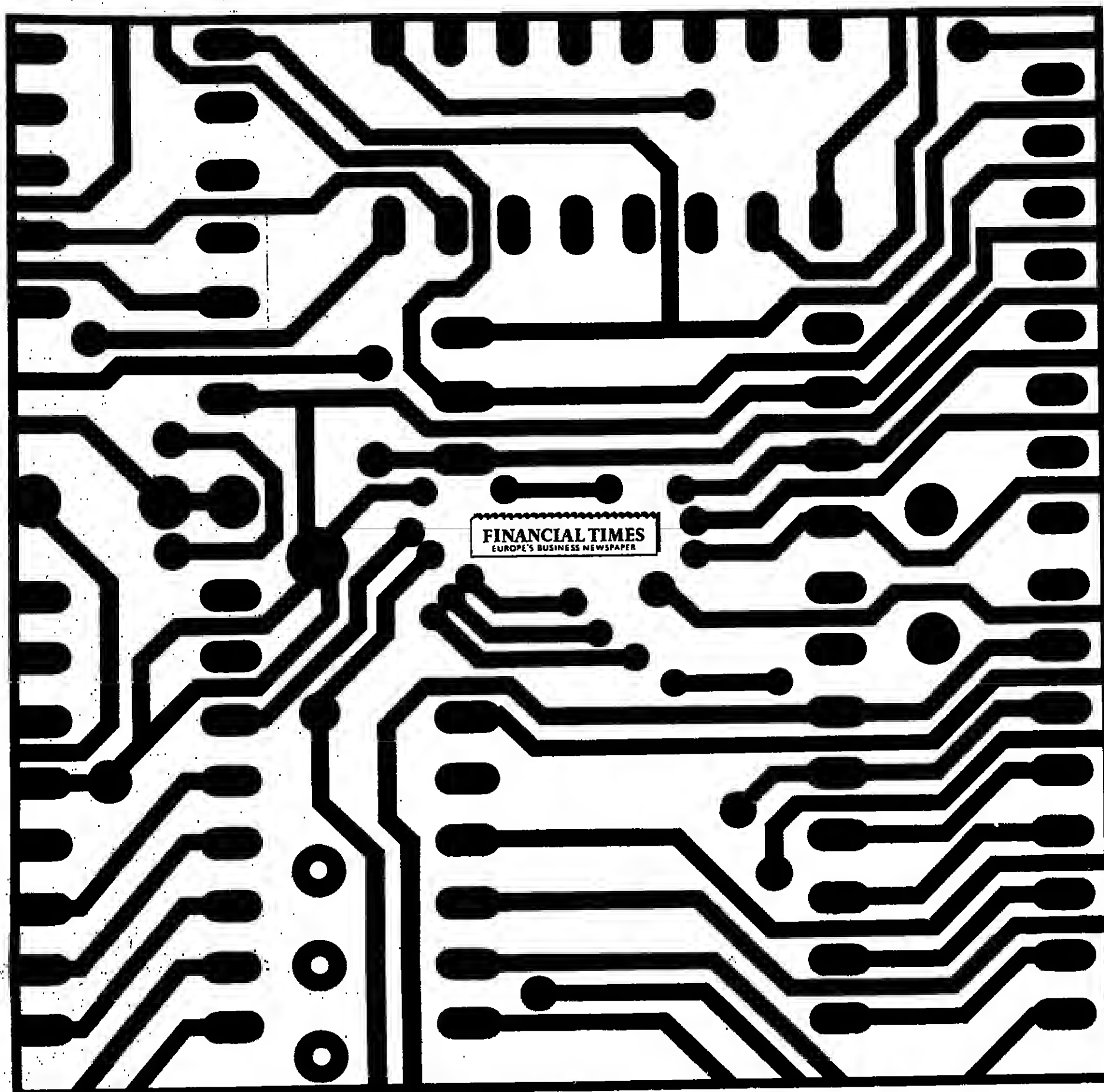
Table of AMEX stock prices with columns for 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, and High/Low/Last/Chg.

Table of AMEX stock prices with columns for 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, and High/Low/Last/Chg.

Notes: Figures are unofficial. Yearly high/low rates... Dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months... Dividend declared or paid in preceding 24 months...



الشرق الأوسط



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EUROPE'S BUSINESS NEWSPAPER

NYSE

Tables include the nationwide closing prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect 188 trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

(Continued)

Table with columns: 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, High, Low, Last, Change. Lists various NYSE stocks and their performance.

Table with columns: 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, High, Low, Last, Change. Lists various NYSE stocks and their performance.

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INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

Quotations supplied by funds listed. Net asset value quotations supplied (d) - daily (w) - weekly (bi) - bi-monthly (m) - monthly (q) - quarterly (a) - annually (n) - not available

Table listing various international funds with columns for fund name, 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, High, Low, Last, Change.

ADVERTISMENT

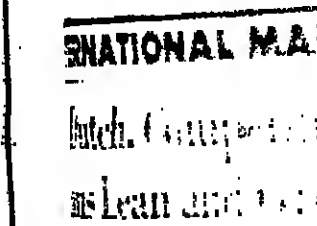
April 14, 1993. Text advertisement for international funds, including contact information for Simon Osborn.

NYSE High-Lows

Table listing NYSE high and low prices for various stocks, with columns for stock name, high, low, and change.

NEW HIGHS

Table listing new high prices for various stocks, with columns for stock name, high, low, and change.



For information on how to list your fund, fax Simon Osborn on (33-1) 46 37 21 33.

MARKET DIARY

Spotlight on Profit As Blue Chips Rise

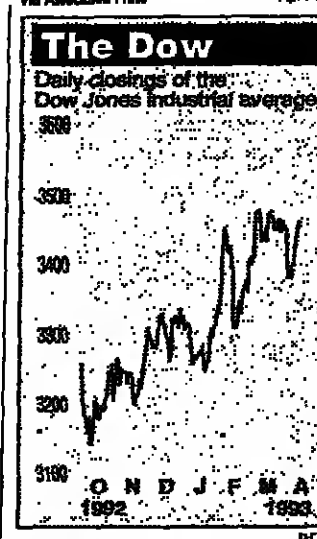
NEW YORK — Blue-chip stocks edged higher on Wednesday as investors focused on corporate earnings reports...

Dollar Rises as Mark And Yen Face Pressure

NEW YORK — The dollar gained against most other major currencies Wednesday, rising against the yen amid concern that the U.S. and Japan may act jointly to slow the Japanese currency's rise...

ERM Wins Endorsement

BRUSSELS — The European Community's monetary committee agreed that the EC's battered currency grid did not need to be reformed, participants in the meeting said on Wednesday...



The Dow Jones Industrial Average

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes Dow Jones Averages and Standard & Poor's Indexes.

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes NYSE Most Actives and AMEX Most Actives.

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes NASDAQ Indexes and AMEX Most Actives.

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EUROPEAN FUTURES

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes COCOA (FPO) and SOYBEAN (CBT).

Table with columns: Index, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes SOYBEAN (CBT) and SOYBEAN MEAL (CBT).

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U.S. / AT THE CLOSE

U.S. Considering a Value-Added Tax

WASHINGTON (WP) — The administration opened the door Wednesday to imposing a value-added tax to pay for its health-care program, after weeks of repeatedly insisting that such a tax was not a live option...

RJR Nabisco Amends Stock Filing

NEW YORK (AP) — RJR Nabisco Holdings Corp.'s shares were under renewed pressure Wednesday after the company modified its plan to trade with two classes of stock because of pricing turmoil in the cigarette industry...

Pacific Telesis to Charge \$2 Billion

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — Pacific Telesis Group said Wednesday it would adopt new accounting standards and set aside reserves that would force it to take a nearly \$2 billion charge against this year's profits...

Judge Approves TWA Leasing Plan

WILMINGTON, Delaware (AP) — Trans World Airlines is negotiating leases for up to 18 jets from McDonnell Douglas as part of the airline's plan to modernize its fleet, the oldest in the industry, TWA executives said on Wednesday...

For the Record

Digital Equipment Corp. reported a \$30.1 million quarterly loss, but the computer maker said the company's results had been improving. Revenue rose by 6 percent to \$3.4 billion, from \$3.2 billion last year...

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Table of world stock markets including Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, London, Milan, Madrid, Sao Paulo, Singapore, Zurich, and others.

Table of world stock markets including Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, London, Milan, Madrid, Sao Paulo, Singapore, Zurich, and others.

U.S. FUTURES

Table of U.S. futures markets including Grains, Metals, Lumber, and others.

U.S. / AT THE CLOSE

Table of U.S. market data including Stock Indexes, Commodity Indexes, and Market Guide.

Interagra Slips on Red Ink French Trader Thrived on Cold War

PARIS — The end of the Cold War has claimed a belated victim with the bankruptcy of an agribusiness empire built on East-West farm trade by a French Communist millionaire.

Compagnie Interagra SA, created in 1947 by Jean-Baptiste Doumeng, applied for court protection from its creditors on Tuesday after failing to reach a payment plan with 35 banks.

The company has oil-exploration rights in Asia and elsewhere that bankers said were potentially valuable assets.

Interagra, which specialized in giant sales of subsidized European Community grain, meat, butter and powdered milk to Communist countries, owes 500 million francs (\$93.1 million), of which 350 million francs is owed to banks.

The parent company, Sepromec, and its commodities-trading unit, Société Commerciale Interagra Iptrade Internationale SA, known as SCII, have also asked to go into court administration, Interagra said.

It added that it hoped to save as much of the business as possible.

Interagra vaulted the Iron Curtain largely because of Mr. Doumeng's relationships with Soviet leaders and to links with the EC Commission.

It was the only company big enough to tender for huge East-West food deals, underwritten by EC governments keen to get rid of mountains of

unsold farm produce and to win the goodwill of the Soviet Union.

Interagra ran into trouble soon after Mr. Doumeng, a blunt-spoken Communist, died in 1987, leaving his sons Michel and Jean-Baptiste in charge.

The collapse of the Soviet Union and the United Nations embargo on Iraq, which was a major importer of French wheat and meat, dealt the final blows.

In October 1991, Interagra denied accusations by the Russian government that the Soviet Union had bailed it out.

Four of the company's subsidiaries, including Société Equipement Agricole et de Vente Interagra SA, a tractor unit, and the Sitos du Sud-Ouest SA grain-storage operation, filed for bankruptcy on Dec. 16 and are under court administration.

Interagra is part-owned by UCASO, an agricultural cooperative that helped Mr. Doumeng found the trading concern.

Interagra initially specialized in importing East Bloc agricultural equipment and food products.

Then, as Russia ran short of food, Mr. Doumeng began selling surplus butter and meat from EC stockpiles to the Soviet Union.

Interagra earned 11.95 billion francs in 1989, the latest year for which data were available, on sales of 17.49 billion. In 1988, sales were 21.5 billion francs and profit was 5.60 billion.

U.K. Economists, and Figures, Point to End of Recession

LONDON — Britain's longest recession since the Depression of the 1930s may finally be over, economists said Wednesday after official figures showed strong manufacturing growth.

The Central Statistical Office said that industrial output jumped 1.6 percent in February, while manufacturing output grew 1.2 percent. The rises dwarfed economists' forecasts and sent the clearest signal yet that the economy was on the mend.

The strong economic figures come just over a year after Prime Minister John Major's surprise election victory last April and could mark a turning point in the fortunes of his government, economists said.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Norman Lamont, attending the Group of Seven meeting in Tokyo, called the figures excellent news.

"Provided costs are kept under firm control," Mr. Lamont said, "the prospects for manufacturing over the coming months are very bright indeed." The good economic news also strengthens Mr. Lamont's position in the face of persistent calls for his resignation.

A monthly report by the Treasury, meanwhile, heralded signs of economic recovery. The report, part of a government drive to make economic policy more public, said domestic inflationary pressures remained very subdued and the rate of increase in unemployment may be slowing.

"This is the first real, positive sign we've seen from the actual data that the recovery has started," said James Barta, economist at Morgan Grenfell.

The figures were a especially good because Janu-

ary's manufacturing output figure was revised up to show a rise of 1.3 percent, against a previous estimate of 0.8 percent growth.

The output figures are the latest think of economic light showing the cloud of recession is lifting.

Industrial confidence is soaring, export orders are improving, and employment prospects, at least for some of Britain's 3 million jobless, are brightening.

A survey of nearly 2,000 managers by the business-information group Dun & Bradstreet published on Tuesday showed that a majority expected sales and profits to rise in the second quarter of 1993.

Business optimism among financial-service concerns is also rising at the sharpest rate since 1989, a Confederation of British Industry/Coopers & Lybrand survey said on Wednesday.

Even the moribund housing market is starting to hum as buyers warm to low prices and cheap loans.

"The economy will expand in the first quarter and this is likely to be hailed in many quarters as the end of recession," said James Sawtell, economist at Warburg Securities.

No Celebrating for Stocks

Banque Paribas reduced its year-end target for the FT-SE index of leading British stocks and said it expected equities to slip in the second quarter. Bloomberg Business News reported on Wednesday.

In the bank's quarterly British strategy review, the equity strategist Andy Hartwell said he had lowered his year-end forecast to 3,000 from 3,250. The FT-SE 100 index closed Wednesday at 2,842.10.

Investor's Europe

Frankfurt DAX	London FTSE 100 Index	Paris CAC 40
1800	3000	2100
1700	2800	2000
1600	2600	1900
1500	2400	1800
1400	2200	1700
1300	2000	1600
1992	1992	1992
1993	1993	1993

Exchange	Index	Wednesday Close	Previous Close	% Change
Amsterdam	CBS Trend	109.20	108.60	+0.55
Brussels	Stock Index	6,295.38	6,313.45	-0.29
Frankfurt	DAX	1,672.44	1,671.05	+0.08
Frankfurt	FAZ	658.73	659.85	-0.17
Helsinki	HEX	1,057.92	1,050.07	+0.75
London	Financial Times 30	2,199.20	2,196.30	+0.13
London	FTSE 100	2,842.10	2,846.80	-0.17
Madrid	General Index	240.60	237.60	+1.26
Milan	MIB	1,130.00	1,128.00	+0.08
Paris	CAC 40	2,015.43	2,018.08	-0.13
Stockholm	Affarsvaeriden	1,227.78	1,220.25	+0.62
Vienna	Stock Index	366.79	368.46	-0.45
Zurich	SBS	740.80	743.80	-0.40

Sources: Reuters, AFP
International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- Sears PLC, the British retail company that includes London's Selfridges department store, saw a sharp fall in its stock price after the Fayed brothers of Egypt, the biggest shareholders, sold their 10.5 percent stake.
 - Fininvest SpA, Silvio Berlusconi's media and real estate flagship, is considering merging its publishing units and then selling shares in the resulting group, a company spokesman said.
 - Leyland DAF's management hopes to complete a buyout of the group's assembly plant in northwestern England before the end of April, the managing director, John Gilchrist, said.
 - Norwegian oil production climbed to a record of almost 2.4 million barrels per day in March after North Sea storms had curbed output in February, according to a Reuters survey of oil firms.
 - Volvo AB must repay 115.5 million kronor (\$15.4 million) of the 165 million kronor subsidy it received for a new auto plant at Uddevalla, the Swedish business and technology development agency, Nutek, said.
 - Ciba-Geigy AG said consolidated first-quarter sales declined to 5.689 billion Swiss francs (\$3.9 billion) from 5.893 billion francs a year earlier.
- Reuters, Bloomberg, AFP

Russia Curbs Foreign Banks' Activities

MOSCOW — Russia's central bank has barred foreign banks from opening multiple branches and limited their shareholdings in an effort to protect Russian banks.

Western bankers said the move was sure to deter foreign banks, which were already nervous about calls made by the opposition-dominated parliament to stop issuing new foreign banking licenses and revoke existing ones.

"Controlling foreign banks is becoming the main motive," one banker said. "They want to keep an iron curtain between Western and Russian banks."

Under the new rules, which took effect two weeks ago, foreign banks may have only one branch in addition to their main office.

The rules also set a minimum capital requirement of \$5 million, far above the 100 million rubles (\$130,500) required of Russian banks, a senior central bank official said Wednesday.

Central bank officials also said that total shareholdings of foreign banks, their subsidiaries and joint-venture banks in which the foreign stake was more than 50 percent could not exceed 12 percent of the total equity of all Russian banks.

Western bankers, noting that Russian banks

were notoriously undercapitalized, said the restriction might prevent Western institutions from raising as much capital as they need to cope with soaring Russian inflation.

Many Russians are wary of Western investment in banking and industry, fearing they may be squeezed out of their own markets.

"Russian banks don't want to compete with experienced foreign banks," a domestic banker said. There are more than 1,500 Russian commercial banks, most of them founded in the past year. Many are small institutions with only one branch. Others are owned by factories and exist simply to finance their operations.

Planned Insider Rule Has London Worried

LONDON — Thorold Mackie, a stock analyst at the British firm Bill Laurie & White Stockbrokers, saved his clients tens of thousands of dollars.

His reward? A \$38,000 fine.

That appears to be the story of the most celebrated insider-trading case in Britain today.

Mr. Mackie was told by the chairman of Shanks & McEwan, a waste-disposal company, that the company's profits were not going to be as attractive as most analysts were predicting. British newspapers said. So Mr. Mackie sold Shanks & McEwan shares on behalf of his clients. He did not sell his own shares.

Most would say Mr. Mackie was doing what any diligent analyst should do: making and saving money for clients. The problem is that British law does not think so.

His case comes as Parliament debates on Wednesday new laws that would change the way insider trading is defined and may

create numerous difficulties for bona fide transactions throughout London's financial sector.

The proposals, part of the Criminal Justice Bill, have been widely criticized. The proposed law, designed to bring British legislation into line with European Community rules, would affect all listed securities, be they shares, bonds or derivatives, and not just equities as at present.

The planned law says anyone who trades any security using information that has "not been made public" would be committing a criminal offense. Anyone who passes on such information, which then is used for trading, is also liable. Currently, only those who have information leaked from the company in question and trade on it are acting illegally.

The proposed law, as it stands, is likely to create difficulties for anyone involved in mergers or acquisitions, underwriting shares, or analyzing equities, lawyers said.

French Banks Cut Base Rates

PARIS — Leading French banks have cut their base lending rates to 9.75 percent from 10 percent, effective April 16, spokesmen for the banks said Wednesday.

Société Générale, Banque Nationale de Paris and Crédit Lyonnais were among those to follow an official easing.

Frugal Germans Undermining Economy

WEISBADEN — As the government reported modest price increases for Eastern and Western Germany on Wednesday, two economics institutes warned that slumping consumer spending was likely to hurt the economy.

In separate reports, the Federal Statistics Office said retail prices in Eastern Germany rose 0.2 percentage point in March from February and wholesale prices in the West also increased 0.2 point in March.

The East German increase made a 12-month inflation rate of 8.8 percent, more than twice the West German level of 4.2 percent. The Eastern rise was largely caused by rising rent and commuter transportation prices, reflecting subsidy cuts.

In the West, even with the 0.2 percent rise, wholesale prices were 1.6 percent below March 1992. In another report reflecting a weak economy, the statistics office said

retail sales fell 8 percent in February, from the year-earlier level.

The IW research institute in Cologne predicted that West German gross domestic product would contract 1.5 percent this year.

A strong Deutsche mark, meanwhile, is hampering exports, while the recession is keeping a lid on corporate capital spending, IW said.

And high unemployment will contain consumer spending.

(Reuters, AFP, AFX, Bloomberg)

DASA Plans Further Cuts

MUNICH — Jürgen Schrempf, chairman of Daimler-Benz AG's unit Deutsche Aerospace AG, said Wednesday that the company planned to cut its work force by 7,600 in 1993-94.

Last month, Deutsche Aerospace, or DASA, said it planned to lay off 7,500. At the end of 1992, its work force totaled 81,900.

Mr. Schrempf said the company was aiming to reduce its work force to slightly more than 75,000 in 1993, with the remaining job cuts taking place in 1994. He said the company did not expect to have to make any more job cuts than those planned, but added: "We can't guarantee this."

He also said he could not rule out the possibility that the company would close down "one or two plants" this year, but did not give further details.

Group orders on hand at the end of 1992 totaled 25.8 billion Deutsche marks (\$2.5 billion), or about twice the level of group sales.

(Reuters, AFX)

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L'Agent Payeur

No. 0012 of 1993

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
Chancery Division Companies Court

IN THE MATTER OF
ST HELEN'S INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on 12th March 1993 the Scheme of Arrangement between the above-named company and the Scheme Creditors (as defined in the Scheme of Arrangement) was approved unanimously by the Scheme Creditors.

FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that by an Order dated 7th April 1993 made in the above matter, the Court has approved the Scheme of Arrangement. The Operative Date (as defined in the Scheme of Arrangement) for the Scheme is 7th April 1993.

After the Operative Date, Claim Forms (as defined in the Scheme of Arrangement) will be dispatched to all known Scheme Creditors. If any creditor does not receive a Claim Form, one may be obtained by contacting either Mr. B. Harding or Mr. R. Johns at Coopers & Lybrand, St. Andrew's House, 20 St. Andrew Street, London EC4A 3AY, Telephone: 071-606 7700; Facsimile: 071-212 6800. Scheme Creditors should note that all Claims must be submitted to the Joint Liquidators on or before 7th August, 1993—the Claims Submission Deadline.

Dated 15th April 1993 I D B Bond Joint Liquidator

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Procter & Gamble Cut Shakes Diaper Makers

Bloomberg Business News
NEW YORK — Procter & Gamble Co.'s plans to cut diaper prices up to 16 percent next month sent investors scurrying from competitors' stock on Wednesday.

Analysts said the company's plans, announced late Tuesday, to trim Pampers prices 5 percent and slash Luvs 16 percent, beginning May 17, would put pressure on other diaper makers to cut their prices.

The private-label diaper maker DSG International Ltd. of Hong Kong was down \$2.75, to \$19.50, in late New York trading, while Paragon Trade Brands Inc., another private-label maker, fell \$4.875, to \$25.375 in heavy trading. Kimberly-Clark Corp., which makes Huggies brand diapers, recently was down \$2.375, at \$51, also in heavy trading. Procter & Gamble gained 37.5 cents, to \$48.50.

It was the third diaper price cut by Procter & Gamble in 10 months.

as the Cincinnati-based company tries to lure customers away from cheaper private-label brands and a popular thin version of Kimberly-Clark's Huggies that it has not been able to match. Diapers generate about 16 percent of Procter & Gamble's worldwide sales of \$29 billion.

The price cut announcement was similar to a move earlier this month by Philip Morris Cos., which said it would cut the cost of Marlboro cigarettes to combat discount brands.

"Procter & Gamble is saying, 'I'm going to war with private labels,'" said Bruce Kirk, an analyst who follows the diaper market for S.G. Warburg & Co. "This is a real threat to private labels."

The Luvs price cuts are intended to lure parents who buy private-label diapers because they are cheaper, but who prefer the higher quality of name brands, said Scott Stewart, a Procter & Gamble spokesman.

Hurdles Remain for NAFTA U.S. Concerned Over Mexican Labor Laws

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
MEXICO CITY — Concerned about the apparently wide differences between the United States and Mexico over what environmental and labor safeguards to add to the North American Free Trade Agreement, Canadian officials tried recently to find a middle ground.

They asked U.S. officials to lay out their minimum requirements for the powers that should be wielded by commissions dealing with the issues. They asked Mexican officials what was the most they could accept on that front. But when the Canadians drafted a compromise proposal, it was rejected by both sides.

The episode, which was described by Mexican and Canadian officials, suggests the difficulties that the three governments faced Wednesday when they started negotiating in earnest the side agreements to the trade pact. The accord, which was signed in December but has not been ratified, would remove most tariff and trade restrictions between the three countries over 15 years.

In recent days, U.S. officials have suggested new ideas for the panels that President Bill Clinton

wants to oversee labor and environmental issues under the accord — ideas that appear to narrow the gap between Mexico and the United States.

But officials of all three countries said the scheduled two days of talks now under way in Mexico City were expected to be only the first of four rounds of discussions of U.S. demands. Topics were the United States' concerns over environmental protection, labor standards and safeguards against surges in imports.

The differences have centered on what authority a three-nation commission on the environment should have to impose sanctions on industries or countries that gain advantage from looser pollution controls.

Mr. Clinton has said he would not submit the trade treaty — which was signed by President George Bush and his Mexican and Canadian counterparts — to the Senate until the parallel accords were negotiated to his satisfaction.

The parallel agreements are aimed mostly at Mexico, which some U.S. and Canadian labor and environmental groups and politicians have argued has an unfair economic advantage. (NYT, UPI)

Inventories In U.S. Show 0.4% Rise

Bloomberg Business News
WASHINGTON — U.S. inventories of unsold goods showed the largest gain in seven months in February, though the consumer-driven recovery remained on track, official figures indicated Wednesday.

Business inventories rose 0.4 percent to \$854.05 billion in February, after advancing by a revised 0.3 percent, to \$851.02 billion, in January, the Commerce Department said. January inventories were initially reported as unchanged.

Economists did not expect to see the biggest increase in supplies of unsold products since an identical 0.4 percent rise in July. They had been looking for a 0.1 percent gain.

Also pointing to a slow recovery, business sales climbed 0.6 percent, reaching \$385.42 billion in February. Sales had been essentially unchanged, at \$381.76 billion, in January.

EC Turns to Cleaner Gas

Reuters
BRUSSELS — Almost half the gasoline used in the European Community is now unleaded and the credit goes largely to German motorists, who buy as much as the rest of the Community put together.

According to figures released by the Community's statistics office, Eurostat, on Wednesday, consumption of the more environmentally friendly fuel rose by 17 percent in the Community last year to account for 46.7 percent of all gasoline consumption.

Drivers in the more northerly countries tended to use it more than those in the south, and German drivers used as much as motorists in all the other 11 EC states, Eurostat said.

HONG KONG: Stocks Hit Record on Hopes for Fresh Talks With China

(Continued from first finance page)
agreement, while the most pressing is only one of several prompts for caution on Hong Kong stock prices.

The outcome of Washington's debate over extension of China's most-favored-nation trading status, concern that investors may take profits in Hong Kong to re-enter Tokyo's advancing stock market and signs China's economy is overheating are negative factors.

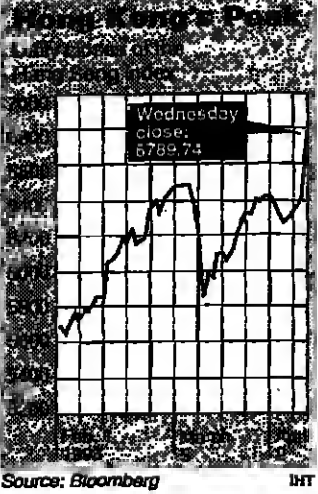
"We're a very spontaneous market, so we tend to adjust with fairly immediate reactions," said James Osborn, a director of Baring Securities (Hong Kong) Ltd. "We can stay at 6,800 to 6,900, maybe test 7,000, but we don't want to get too carried away."

Insider Deals Seen
Prior knowledge of Tuesday night's announcement that there would be Chinese-British talks about Hong Kong allowed some investors to make a killing on the colony's futures and stock markets, Bloomberg Business News quoted analysts and traders as saying.

"It's very clear that there was some leakage of information and certain people knew about the talks before they were made public and obviously took advantage," said Clive Weedon at Nomura.

On Tuesday, the April Hang Seng index futures contract soared 210 points to 6,500 while the physical Hang Seng index of top shares climbed 132.54 points to 6,418.21.

The sharpness of the rise surprised many traders and fund managers.



COMPANY RESULTS

Company	1st Qtr. 1993	1st Qtr. 1992	1st Qtr. 1993	1st Qtr. 1992	1st Qtr. 1993	1st Qtr. 1992
United States						
B.F. Goodrich	Revenue: 374.30	Revenue: 402.30	Net Loss: 7.00	Net Loss: 788.40	1992 1st quarter loss includes charge of \$284.5 million.	
Boise Cascade	Revenue: 84.14	Revenue: 82.12	Over Loss: 12.10	Over Loss: 43.32	1992 1st quarter profit gain of \$6.4 million. 1992 net excludes charge of \$2.3 million.	
CBS	Revenue: 878.08	Revenue: 1,082.8	Over Net: 54.20	Over Net: 17.50	1992 net excludes charge of \$6.2 million.	
Coca-Cola	Revenue: 3,056	Revenue: 2,775	Over Net: 45.80	Over Net: 364.80		
Digital Equipment	Revenue: 3,454	Revenue: 3,553	Net Loss: 36.12	Net Loss: 311.21		
General Electric	Revenue: 12,900	Revenue: 12,400	Net Inc: 1,160	Net Inc: 1,200		
ITT Paper	Revenue: 3,400	Revenue: 3,400	Over Net: 64.00	Over Net: 164.00	1992 1st quarter results include charge of \$100 million.	
Merrill Lynch	Revenue: 3,363	Revenue: 4,114	Over Net: 242.20	Over Net: 217.47		
Motorola	Revenue: 3,100	Revenue: 3,000	Over Net: 20.00	Over Net: 125.00		
New York Times	Revenue: 45.46	Revenue: 43.58	Net Inc: 18.89	Net Inc: 20.02		
Robbermaid	Revenue: 463.48	Revenue: 464.44	Net Inc: 41.42	Net Inc: 23.26		
First Flidity	Revenue: 92.10	Revenue: 89.80	Over Net: 1.11	Over Net: 1.99		
SUNTrust Banks	Revenue: 115.50	Revenue: 102.50	Net Inc: 0.08	Net Inc: 0.76	1992 net excludes charge of \$2.2 million and loss of \$1.75 million vs. \$52.2 million.	
Tenneco	Revenue: 74.60	Revenue: 56.20	Over Net: 0.46	Over Net: 0.25	1992 net excludes charge of \$49 million and loss of \$2 million.	
Westinghouse Elec.	Revenue: 1,800	Revenue: 1,854	Over Net: 64.00	Over Net: 107.00	0. loss, 1992 loss including charge of \$24 million and gain of \$44 million.	
Whitman	Revenue: 522.50	Revenue: 497.80	Net Inc: 61.50	Net Inc: 5.30	0. loss, 1992 net includes charge of \$2 million.	

RECYCLE: Industry Deals With a New Source of Waste: Old Computers

(Continued from first finance page)
of the 1960s and 1970s, reading the Whole Earth Catalogue and schooled in the tenets of environmentalism.

It is also an industry accustomed to change and attuned to international standards — and aware that Europe, led by Germany, is taking some pioneering steps in recycling computers.

The U.S. government views the computer industry effort as a model of its new "Design for Environment" program in which business and government collaborate early to prevent pollution rather than having the EPA be the cop that tries to catch corporate polluters after they have damaged the environment.

This collaborative approach, along with stressing the competitive and marketing advantages of green products, is to be a hallmark of the Clinton administration.

The industry's collaborative approach seems to have been a success on another environmental front: energy conservation.

For more than a year, computer companies and the EPA have worked to cut electricity consumption of desktop personal computers by half, by putting them in the electronic equivalent of hibernation when they are turned on but not being used.

But the mounting pile of obsolete computers remains the more difficult environmental challenge.

An ambitious study of the problem completed last month by the government and an industry consortium, "Environmental Conscious-

ness: A Strategic Competitiveness Issue for the Electronics and Computer Industry," sought to lay out the issues and serve as a guide for efforts by the computer companies, chip makers and others.

"The key is designing for the environment instead of trying to cope with environmental problems at the end of the pipeline — disposal," said Greg Pitts, the environmental project manager for Microelectronics & Computer Technology Corp., an industry consortium.

In pursuit of a green computer, companies are beginning to work on different manufacturing processes, the use of recyclable materials, minimizing the amount of materials used, and design changes so that computers can be easily taken apart for recycling.

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China Goes On Buying Spree in The U.S.

By Daniel Southerland

WASHINGTON — China has gone on a buying spree in the United States in recent weeks, making purchases worth nearly \$1 billion, including orders this week for 14,800 autos and minivans from the Big Three U.S. automakers. U.S. analysts said the stepped-up purchases were intended to influence President Bill Clinton's pending decision on whether to extend China's most-favored-nation trading status.

The recent buying missions from China are the latest in a series that China has sent to the United States since 1990 to demonstrate an effort to reduce its growing trade surplus with the United States and to underline the importance of the most-favored relationship.

Mr. Clinton must decide by June 4 whether to extend for another year China's favored status, which guarantees that Chinese exports to the United States are subject to the same low tariffs that most other U.S. trading partners enjoy.

During the election campaign, Mr. Clinton denounced President George Bush's support for renewal of the trading status. He endorsed legislation that would condition such a renewal on improved Chinese behavior on human rights, overseas arms sales and fair trade.

Since the election, Mr. Clinton has said little about China and appears to be pursuing a more cautious approach to the Beijing government. At the same time, U.S. business leaders have become more outspoken in opposing threats to link U.S. trade with China to Beijing's progress on human rights and other issues.

The businessmen argue that if Washington places conditions on an extension of the most-favored status, Beijing will retaliate and begin buying more from other foreign suppliers.

The purchases from Chrysler Corp., Ford Motor Co. and General Motors Corp., worth about \$160 million, marked an increase of about \$30 million over sales made last year by the Big Three, to the Chinese government.

Meanwhile, the official Xinhua news agency reported Tuesday, as expected, that China had ordered 21 jetliners from Boeing Corp., worth about \$800 million.

Growers Show Japan Nothing Empty Apple Crates Carry A U.S. Protest on Trade

Empty Apple Crates Carry A U.S. Protest on Trade

Bloomberg Business News

TOKYO — American apple growers are pointedly not showing off their wares at an Osaka food show they are attending. The American contingent, representing a 3,600-member apple-growers association from Washington state, is displaying empty crates to protest what it says is Japan's unfair ban on American apples.

The Washington Apple Commission said in a statement that the Japanese Agriculture Ministry rejected imports of American apples because it feared an infestation of foreign pests.

Officially, however, the Japanese apple market was liberalized in 1971.

"America's Northwest apple industry has taken exhaustive steps since 1975 to gain access to the Japanese market, the commission said, 'but barrier after barrier has arisen.'"

It said Japan had repeatedly demanded tests for the presence of various insects that could infest Japanese fruit. The association responded to each request,

it said, but the Japanese side maintains its ban.

The Japanese Agriculture Ministry sees the situation differently. "Though we have received test data from the U.S. side, their pest-preventive technology has not met our standards," said a ministry official, Motoi Sakamura.

"This is an issue of technology, not of trade," he said. "We cannot compromise on certain points. The negotiations will continue until it is proved that American apples have no bugs."

Japan has allowed imports of South Korean apples since 1973, but their volume is not large. In addition, the Agriculture Ministry plans to lift a ban on apples from New Zealand in June or July.

But to U.S. growers, those moves are beside the point. The president of the Washington state group, Tom Hale, said the organization favored granting Japan fuller access to U.S. markets as well, adding, "We are free traders and welcome fair competition."

Kuala Lumpur Volume Surges to Record Level

Bloomberg Business News

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysian stocks rose on Wednesday in the country's heaviest trading ever as rumor-driven speculative buying gained intensity.

"The retail boys are buying like crazy," said W.K. Choy, investment analyst with Phileo Peregrine Securities, referring to small investors. "It is very frightening."

The Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange's benchmark Composite Index rose 5.02 points to 660.60, just under the record close of 661.35 that was set April 7.

Volume hit a record 955.9 million shares, valued at 2,042 billion ringgit (\$792 million), up from 581.80 million shares worth 1,351 billion ringgit traded on Tuesday. Turnover had averaged only 69.41

million shares a day as recently as January.

Analysts said investors had gained confidence from Tuesday's remarks by the executive chairman of the exchange, Nik Mohamed Din Danik Nik Yusoff, suggesting that the market was being driven by fundamentals. Mr. Nik Din said he saw no evidence to support reports that syndicates of traders were artificially boosting prices.

Rumors drove the market Wednesday, with the hottest story involving Hicom Bhd., a government-owned company.

Hicom wants a KLSE listing of its own, but it is most likely to get one by taking over a smaller company. Speculation has focused on Uniphox Corp., which soared 1.04 ringgit to 4.20 ringgit.

Woolworths Parent Revives \$1.4 Billion Stock Offering

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SYDNEY — The parent group of the Australian retailer Woolworths Ltd. revived Wednesday plans to sell stock in a flotation expected to be worth 2 billion Australian dollars (\$1.4 billion).

The offering of shares, the largest in Australian history, is designed to help Woolworths' indebted parent, Adelaide Steamship Co. A date has not been set for the offering, but the chief executive of Adelaide Steamship, George Haines, said a prospectus should be available in June and the offer was expected to close in July.

"The timing of any public flotation will be determined by market conditions," Mr. Haines said in a statement.

Woolworths was taken over in 1988 by Industrial Equity Ltd., which is owned by Adelaide Steamship, or Adsteam, and its associate, the retailer David Jones Ltd. and the investment company Tooth & Co.

The refloat of Woolworths was originally planned for late last year as part of a financial restructuring of Adsteam, which has liabilities of about 6 billion dollars, but it was postponed in September because of a severe slump in the stock market and the failure of another major effort to raise capital.

Since then, the market's All-Ordinaries index has

picked up to a three-year high of around 1,700 points and analysts believe the float should be successful.

Industrial Equity said that floor and ceiling prices for shares would be nominated, with institutional investors invited to apply for shares at prices within that range.

"If there is a serious deterioration in the market, which significantly reduces the price obtainable for Woolworths relative to its earnings and value, then the flotation will not necessarily succeed," Industrial Equity added.

Woolworths, which is Australia's largest food retailer, had a 12 percent increase in sales in the eight months ended Feb. 28 compared with the year-earlier period. Profit before interest and taxes for the year ending May 31 is expected to exceed the forecast of 272 million dollars, the parent said.

Woolworths latest results showed sales up 11.5 percent, to 2.92 billion dollars, for the 13 weeks ended Jan. 3.

Woolworths will be the first of a number of major public floats likely this year. These include the 2 billion dollar sale of 75 percent of state-owned Qantas Airways Ltd. and a further 19 percent of Commonwealth Bank of Australia, currently 70 percent government-owned, for about 1 billion dollars.

(Reuters, AFP, Bloomberg)

Taiwan Computer Boom Seen Lasting All Year

Bloomberg Business News

TAIPEI — The surge in sales by electronics and computer companies listed on the Taiwan Stock Exchange is likely to continue for the rest of the year, electronics industry analysts said Wednesday.

In the first quarter of the year, sales rose 30 percent from a year earlier, to 23.4 billion Taiwan dollars (\$975 million).

Strong electronics industry growth led first-quarter sales of companies listed on the Taiwan exchange up 4.5 percent from a year ago, to 237.7 billion dollars, Jardine Fleming Taiwan Securities said.

Electronics sales were boosted by an economic upturn, successful

efforts by companies to shift to hot-selling products like notebook computers and computer monitors, and the recent easing of the Taiwan dollar against the U.S. dollar, analysts said.

"Foreign-exchange market trends, the recovery overseas, and big orders from American companies are behind the trend," said Miguel Uribe, an analyst with HIG Securities Asia.

Taiwan electronics companies, including computer companies, that reported sizable first-quarter sales gains include Acer Inc., up 31 percent to 3.3 billion dollars; First International Computer Corp., up 60 percent to 2.7 billion dollars, and ADI Corp., up 111 percent to 2.2 billion dollars.

Cold Water on B Shares

Bloomberg Business News

BEIJING — A top official from the Shenzhen Stock Exchange discounted Wednesday reports that China may allow domestic investors to buy B shares, currently restricted to foreign investors. The Chinese press has quoted officials calling for such reform since late last year.

Little Relief For Japan

Reuters

TOKYO — Japan's economy is still in a slump as capital spending has continued to fall and personal consumption remains weak, the governor of the Bank of Japan, Yasushi Mieno, said Wednesday.

He told an annual conference of the Trust Companies Association of Japan that there were some good signs in economic indicators such as increasing industrial output, improving car sales and recovering money-supply growth. But he said the central bank could not be too optimistic.

Companies are planning to curb 1993-94 capital-spending growth as corporate profits are expected to remain weak.

Investor's Asia

Exchange	Index	Wednesday Close	Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	6,789.74	+5.79
Singapore	Straits Times	1,708.81	+0.89
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	1,698.70	+0.93
Sydney	All Ordinaries	1,704.40	+0.93
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	20,533.38	+0.00
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	660.60	+0.77
Bangkok	SET	862.71	-0.00
Seoul	Composite Stock	704.92	+2.17
Taipei	Weighted Price	4,575.85	+0.47
Manila	Composite	1,578.85	+0.93
Jakarta	Stock Index	307.28	+0.02
New Zealand	NZSE-40	1,585.75	+0.90
Bombay	National Index	1,002.97	-0.00

Sources: Reuters, AFP, International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- Sales at Tokyo's 27 department stores fell 11.4 percent in March from a year earlier, to 220.4 billion yen (\$1.96 billion), their 13th consecutive drop, an industry group said Wednesday. It said sales of clothing, furniture and home appliances were poor.
- Japanese investors bought \$26.2 billion more in securities abroad last year than foreigners invested in Japan, the Bank of Japan said. The result was a reversal from 1991, when foreign investors bought \$41 billion more in Japanese stocks than Japanese investors abroad.
- Taiwan's overseas investment rose 13 percent in the first quarter, to \$318 million from \$281 million a year earlier. But new foreign investment in Taiwan fell 14 percent in \$183.4 million, continuing a three-year slide attributed to a stronger local currency and rising costs for land and labor.
- China is sending 80,000 railway workers to Jiangxi in a \$1.8 billion, three-year project to develop the landlocked province's railroad system and improve trade and transport between China's coastal and interior regions, the official China Daily reported.
- Hong Leong Corp. of Singapore has joined an international consortium to acquire a 31 percent stake, valued at \$52 million, in China's major diesel-engine maker, Guangxi Yuchai Machinery Co. Hong Leong will invest \$21 million to own 20 percent, and partners will own 31 percent.
- A former Fraser & Neave beverage bottling site in Singapore will soon be reborn as a commercial and residential complex. Construction of the complex, expected to cost 400 million Singapore dollars (\$252 million), is due to begin early next year.

Bloomberg, AFP, Reuters



MICHELIN

Compagnie Générale des Etablissements Michelin

1992 Consolidated Results

The MICHELIN recovery continued in 1992. After an exceptional non-recurring charge of FF 587 million arising from the application of new accounting standards by its US subsidiaries, the consolidated net loss was FF 11 million, against a loss of FF 1,013 million in 1991. The Group share in the result was a profit of FF 79 million and that of Minority interests, a loss of FF 90 million.

1992 SUMMARY

Sales volume progressed in a contrasting fashion during the year. The first six months was 3.5% higher than the corresponding period of 1991 but tyre demand in European markets fell sharply from summer onwards.

MICHELIN is now strongly represented in North America but despite a moderate improvement in sales in that region, total sales volume for the year was down by 0.2%.

During the course of the year certain European currencies, together with the US dollar, devalued against the French franc. The effect of adverse currency movements, combined with lower sales volume, resulted in a consolidated turnover of FF 66,847 million, a fall of 1.2% on the previous year.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The recovery plan, implemented in early 1991, was the main contributor to an improvement in profitability in the first half-year. This could not be sustained, however, given the deterioration in European markets from summer onwards.

Trading profit was FF 4,234 million, an increase of FF 377 million on the previous year.

Net financial charges were FF 2,698 million. The reduction of FF 399 million was due to exchange rate fluctuations, lower interest rates and a reduction in average debt.

Ordinary profit was FF 1,536 million, FF 776 million higher than 1991.

Despite the improvement the ordinary profit before taxation represented no more than 2.3% of sales turnover for the year, whereas a level of almost 4% had been achieved in the first half-year.

Implementation of the recovery plan continued in 1992 and within the framework of the plan, MICHELIN has now reduced its workforce by 16,000 employees in two years. The related costs were provisioned in 1990 and 1991 thus have no bearing on the extraordinary results for 1992. Extraordinary profit for the year was FF 221 million, consisting mainly of gains on the disposals of various capital items.

In total, after the charge for taxation and the exceptional charge of FF 587 million arising from the application of new accounting standards by the US subsidiaries, the net result was a loss of FF 11 million. The exceptional charge was related to post-retirement medical costs in the US and to deferred tax provisions.

Funds generated from operations during the year were FF 5,145 million, an increase of FF 2,056 million over 1991.

The accounts of the Compagnie Générale des Etablissements MICHELIN show a profit of FF 213 million against a profit of FF 118.4 million for 1991. Adverse changes in exchange parities during the second half-year led to a slight reduction in the trading result. Returning positive, the net financial result was FF 55.2 million and the profit on ordinary activities, FF 326.6 million in 1991, increased to FF 403.1 million for the year 1992. Including a provision of FF 200 million for depreciation of shareholdings in Manufacture Française des Pneumatiques MICHELIN, the extraordinary loss was FF 148 million, after FF 224.3 million in 1991.

MICHELIN GROUP - PRINCIPAL CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT ITEMS.

FF millions	1992	1991
Net sales	66,847	67,649
Trading profit	4,234	3,877
Net financial charges	(2,698)	(3,097)
Ordinary profit	1,536	780
Extraordinary profit (loss)	221	(1,193)
Depreciation of goodwill	(241)	(200)
Tax on profit	(950)	(425)
Share of companies consolidated by the equity method	(10)	24
Net charge arising on implementation of new US accounting standards	(587)	-
Profit (loss)	(11)	(1,013)
of which: Group	79	(694)
Minority interests	(90)	(314)
Funds generated from operations	5,145	3,089

The above accounts have been presented to the Company's Conseil de Surveillance. The Managing Firmers will convene the Annual General Meeting of shareholders at 9.30am on 25th June, 1993 at Aulnat, Clermont Ferrand, France, and will propose the distribution of a net dividend of FF 1.30 per 'B' and per partially redeemed 'A' share, and FF 1.60 per 'A' capital share.

OUTLOOK

The situation which developed during Autumn 1992 continued into the first quarter of this year. European tyre markets, particularly those allied to vehicle construction, have maintained a slow downward trend, in contrast with markets in North America which would appear to be recovering.

Likely influences on the 1993 results are again difficult to predict. The size and duration of the downturn in Europe, confirmation of the recovery in North America and the effect of reductions in European interest rates, cannot presently be foreseen.

In the absence of a rapid recovery from the trading conditions which prevailed in the first quarter, the net result for the first half-year would inevitably be in deficit.

Adapting to the changing situation, MICHELIN has:

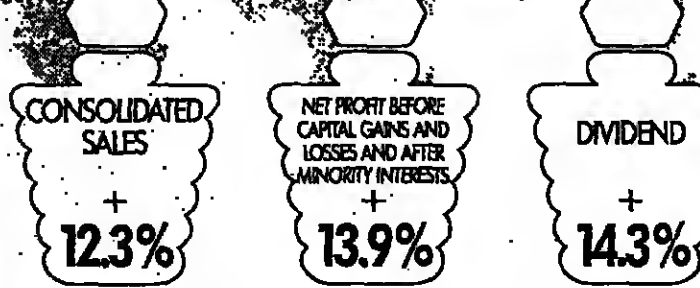
- introduced short-time working in order to balance production and sales,
- imposed new limits on investment. Expenditure will be directed mainly towards improving productivity gains and plant flexibility.

Within the framework of the recovery plan the considerable efforts made by the Group have enabled it to achieve a recovery in two years.

The sharp deterioration in tyre markets, the end of which remains unpredictable, has imposed the need for renewed action to counter what could be a sign of fundamental economic change. In response, there will be an acceleration of efforts to reduce costs. Based on the current position, the target set is FF 3.5 billion in two years.

The negative influences of the present economic climate will thus be limited. Principally, however, having reached its first objective in manufacturing cost reductions, MICHELIN will be in the best competitive position to gain rapid benefit from any upturn.

L'ORÉAL



GROWTH IN L'ORÉAL'S CONSOLIDATED RESULTS

MS = Million of \$ \$ = US dollar	1992	% compared to 1991
Consolidated sales	\$ 6,814 M	+12.3%
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation, employee profit-sharing	\$ 727 M	+16.0%
Net profit before capital gains and losses and minority interests	\$ 470 M	+19.8%
Net profit before capital gains and losses and after minority interests	\$ 417 M	+13.9%
Net earnings per share and investment certificate	\$ 7.2	+13.8%
Proposed dividend	\$ 1.74	+14.3%

This year, as in previous years, Mr Lindsay OWEN-JONES, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, has invited analysts, journalists and investors to L'ORÉAL's Head Office to announce and review the 1992 results for the L'ORÉAL group.

Despite a difficult international environment in 1992, L'ORÉAL continued to record volume growth and to increase its market shares. Group strategy remained focused on internationalisation of trademarks, research and development and the launching of innovative products.

L'ORÉAL's consolidated turnover amounted to \$ 6.8 billion, representing an increase of 12.3% compared to 1991, and 8.8% on a comparable basis, that is using identical structures and exchange rates.

Total managed sales, including sales generated by agents whose industrial and commercial activities are managed by

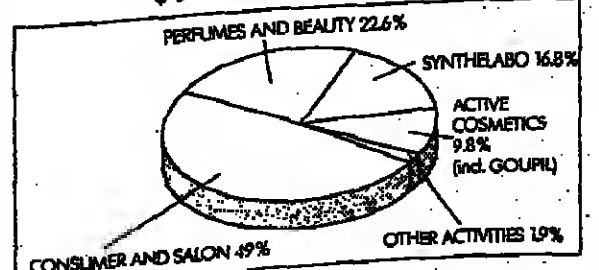
L'ORÉAL, reached \$ 8.4 billion. Net profit before capital gains and losses and minority interests reached \$ 470 million, an increase of 19.8% compared to 1991.

As a result of a significant increase in minority interests following Synthelabo's capital increase, consolidated net profit before capital gains and losses and after minority interests, increased by 13.9% to \$ 417 million.

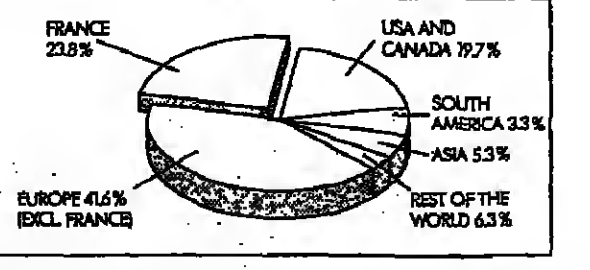
Net earnings per share and investment certificate increased to \$ 7.2.

The Board of Directors of the L'ORÉAL group has decided to propose a net dividend of \$ 1.74, an increase of 14.3% over 1991, at the Annual Shareholder's Meeting to be held on Tuesday, the 25th of May, 1993. This dividend is payable to both ordinary shares and investment certificates.

1992 CONSOLIDATED SALES BY DIVISION



GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF 1992 MANAGED COSMETICS SALES



Further information on the Group worldwide can be obtained by writing to the Investor Relations and Business Information Department of the L'ORÉAL group, Office No. A 0403, 41, rue Marivaux, 92117 CLICHY (FRANCE); or by fax: (33-1) 47 56 80 02; or by telex: 613 088 (PARIS).

SPORTS BASEBALL

Tigers T Off on A's: 20 Runs Are Most Scored in 56 Years

The Associated Press
Lively balls or lackluster pitchers, expansion effects or excellent weather — whatever, runs are being scored like crazy this season, and it was only a matter of time until the Detroit Tigers got their share.

The Tigers, who led the majors in runs last season, crushed the Oakland Athletics, 20-4, on Tuesday in their highest-scoring game in 56 seasons.

Travis Fryman, Mickey Tettleton and Rob Deer each hit three-

even began well against the Rangers, retiring the side in order in the first inning before the Rangers began to break loose.

They lead the majors with 14 homers, including 10 off the Orioles, whom they have beaten four straight.

Blue Jays 6, Mariners 5: Toronto won at home when Darnell Coles tripled in the tie-breaking run with two outs in the eighth.

Omar Vizquel, who had not homered in 620 at-bats since Aug. 19, 1991, hit a grand slam in the sixth off Danny Cox, putting Seattle ahead 5-3.

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Geronimo Pena made an acrobatic out on Brett Butler as the Cardinals upended the Dodgers, 9-7.

Blackhawks Get Division Title As the North Stars Sink Away

The Associated Press
In what might have been the Minnesota North Stars' last game at Met Center just outside Minneapolis, the Chicago Blackhawks became the final division champion in the National Hockey League.

After a 3-2 victory over the Stars clinched the Norris Division title for the Blackhawks on Tuesday, their coach, Darryl Sutter, said "now's when the real stuff happens, when we turn the page on our season."

The North Stars may have already done that — and turned the page on their existence in Minnesota as well.

The Stars, who are moving to Dallas next season, remained one point behind St. Louis and can make the playoffs only by winning at Detroit in Thursday's regular-season finale, while the Blues either lose to or tie the Tampa Bay in St. Louis.

Ed Belfour made 33 saves as the Blackhawks clinched home-ice advantage throughout the Campbell Conference playoffs.

Stephane Matteau, Greg Gilbert and Brian Sutter scored for Chicago, which has 104 points for the best record in the conference.

The overflow crowd of 15,445 gave the North Stars a long ovation before the game, cheered throughout the national anthem and regularly chanted vulgarities that included the name of the team's owner, Norm Green.

Nordiques 6, Senators 2: Owen Nolan scored twice and assisted on three goals as the Nordiques earned home-ice advantage for the first round of the playoffs and the Senators lost their 40th road game of the season.

That established an NHL mark: the old record was 39, by the expansion Washington Capitals in 1974-75.

The victory in its final regular-season game gave Quebec a club-record 104 points and second place in the Adams Division. The Nordiques will start the playoffs at home Sunday against third-place Montreal.

Canadiens 3, Sabres 2: Brian Bellows scored the game-tying goal late in the third period and then got the winner in overtime.

The goals, Bellows's 39th and 40th, helped Montreal snap a five-

game losing streak and extended Buffalo's losing streak to six games.

Maple Leafs 2, Blues 1: Peter Zedel scored 1:46 into overtime to give the Maple Leafs a club record-tying 25th home-ice victory. The only other time the Maple Leafs won that many home games was in 1961-62, when they won the Stanley Cup.

Islanders 3, Whalers 3: Pat Verbeek's second goal of the game, at 13:25 of the second period, gave Hartford a tie but New York moved within one point of third-place New Jersey in the Patrick Division.

Whichever team finishes fourth gets to play the defending Stanley Cup champion Pittsburgh Penguins in the first round of the playoffs. Both New York and New Jersey have two games left.

Lightning 5, Jets 3: Mikael Andersson scored three goals in expansion Tampa Bay's victory over the playoff-bound Jets in a game that brought cries of "boring" from the announced crowd of 11,878 in Winnipeg.

The Jets' Teemu Selanne received the loudest cheer of the night when he got an assist to tie the team record for points in a season with 130 in 83 games — matching the mark set by Dale Hawerchuk eight years ago in an 80-game season.

NHL HIGHLIGHTS

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Ex-Ram Green Returns To L.A., but as a Raider

Compiled by Our Staff Press Dispatches
Gaston Green, who blossomed into one of the better running backs in the National Football League with the Denver Broncos after escaping Los Angeles, is returning to the city as a member of the Raiders.

Green was traded to the Raiders for a third-round draft choice.

The 26-year-old native of Los Angeles played sparingly in three seasons with the Rams, then emerged as a leading rusher when he was traded to the Broncos in 1991. He gained 1,037 yards in his first season in Denver.

A year ago, he was Denver's leading rusher with 648 yards, but became expendable when the Broncos signed the free agent running backs Rod Bernard and Robert Delino in recent weeks.

Joe Montana, still searching for a new team, has eliminated the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

The 36-year-old quarterback with the San Francisco 49ers had considered Tampa Bay as a courtesy to the Buccaneers' coach, Sam Wyche, a former 49ers assistant. But the Buccaneers never dangled a significant financial package, and Montana never visited the team.

The three teams still in the running for Montana's services are Kansas City, Phoenix and Detroit, in that order. The Chiefs continue to be the front-runner, though Montana's representatives continued financial talks with all three.

The holdup in his making a decision, according to a person familiar with the negotiations, has been caused by the Chiefs' tough stance. Montana's preference is to play in Kansas City, but the Chiefs are offering less money than the Cardinals — who are believed to be offering more than \$2 million a year — and are expected to offer the 49ers only a third-round pick for the quarterback. Phoenix, on the other hand, will offer its late first-round pick to San Francisco 20th overall — in the April 25 draft.

The NFL's draft order was officially revised, giving the Philadel-

phia Eagles and Phoenix Cardinals extra first-round picks to compensate for their loss of free agents.

The Eagles, who lost Reggie White to the Green Bay Packers via free agency, were given the 13th pick in the April 25 draft, while the Cardinals, who lost Tim McDonald to the San Francisco 49ers, were given the 20th pick.

Phoenix already has the No. 4 pick in the first round and Philadelphia the 24th choice.

There will be 29 picks in the first round instead of the usual 28, or one for each team. The New York Giants gave up their first-round pick this season when they selected quarterback Dave Brown in a supplemental draft in 1992.

The Eagles' new choice will come after the Los Angeles Raiders', the last team with a losing record to pick, and Denver's. The Cardinals will pick after Houston and before Minnesota.

Eason Ramson, the tight end on the 49ers' 1982 Super Bowl championship team, was sentenced in Sacramento, California, to 7 years 8 months in state prison for parole violations.

Ramson had entered into a plea agreement that called for the prison term because he violated his parole for a series of strong-arm robberies.

Ramson pleaded guilty to one count of petty theft for shoplifting six bottles of rum and whisky worth \$94.87 on Dec. 15. He also pleaded no contest to misdemeanor battery for struggling with store employees.

Ramson had pleaded guilty in August 1991 to robbing 10 people at automatic teller machines.

Bobby Humphrey, a running back for the Miami Dolphins, was indicted in Columbus, Georgia, on aggravated assault and other charges stemming from a Jan. 31 fight at a hotel.

A grand jury also charged Humphrey, 26, with possessing a controlled substance, second-degree criminal damage to property and giving false information.

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SPORTS SOCCER

Kukoc Is Poised For the Grand Finale in Europe

By Ian Thomsen
International Herald Tribune

ATHENS — Awaiting Toni Kukoc were his opponents from PAKK Salociki, who weren't going to let him get off a shot in the final 10, evaporating seconds. Watching Kukoc burst into the lane were the referees who, surrounded as they were by 10,000 fevered Greeks, weren't going to call a foul.

Just before PAKK's players could smother him, Kukoc tossed ball blindly over his left shoulder. It was caught out there by Benetton's teammate Maurizio Ragazzi, looking like he was just now wandering into this gym. He bobbed the ball just by himself. At 2.2 seconds his shot fell through from 18 feet.

So Italy's Benetton, with a 79-77 upset of tournament favorite PAKK, on Thursday night meets the mother of all Final Four underdogs, Limoges of France, in the final of the European Basketball Championship. Limoges overwhelmed heavily favored Real Madrid, 62-52, smothering hopes for a final matching the two best professionals never to play in the NBA, the Croat Kukoc and Madrid's center, the Lithuanian Arvidas Sabonis.

Perhaps it's best that the stage be left to Kukoc, the 6-foot, 10-inch (2.08-meter) forward who plays like a guard and likely will be trying to say goodbye to Europe with his fourth championship in five years. Jerry Krause, the general manager of the Chicago Bulls of the National Basketball Association has been here talking with Kukoc's agent, Luciano Capicchioni, and Kukoc has been escorted by his friend from Split, Ivica Dukin, who happens to be a scout for the Bulls.

"This is Kukoc's last final before he goes to the NBA," said Limoges' coach, Bozidar Maljkovic, who oversaw the first two of Split's championship teams with Kukoc in 1989 and '90. "He is the best player in Europe, but I also believe he is better than 80 percent of the players in the NBA."

According to Krause, the tournament's co-star is Maljkovic, who plotted the collapse of Madrid's transition game and blighted its attempts to feed Sabonis. The 7-5 center scored 19 points by rarely got the ball where he wanted it, despite being twice as wide as the man guarding him, the 35-year-old Willie Redden.

Limoges, which barely qualified for the semifinals, can become the first European champion from France. Benetton was rescued from obscurity by Kukoc, NBA veteran Terry Teagle and center Stefano Rusconi, who got 23 points against PAKK. Despite winning its first Italian League championship last year, and the Italian Cup just last month, the club has no experience in a final of this magnitude.

"But I'm afraid of Kukoc," said Maljkovic, "because I know he has never lost such finals in the past."

Kukoc was his usual subtle self against PAKK, with 15 points, 10 assists and 8 rebounds, foregoing his jumper to drive and set up teammates. And, no doubt, Maljkovic will demand that his Limoges players follow Italian international Massimo Loaconi out past the 3-point line, from where he sank three in a row to give Benetton its first lead, at 70-68, with 6:47 left.

At that point the partisan crowd, excepting the Italian fans who were a decided minority, fell silent for the first time in hours. When Ragazzi made his game-winning shot, and his teammates celebrated some 2,000 white-helmeted policemen, carrying pistols and girded in their riot gear, turned to face the crowd. But the Greek fans departed quickly, exhausted.

"On the floor, PAKK forward Cliff Livingston, in his first year over from the Bulls, appeared near tears after an emotional 18-point effort hampered by foul troubles. His dreams of a third straight championship ring had been displaced by those of Kukoc, who hopes to cement his place in the escalating European game before, apparently, inevitably, moving on to a more demanding level.



Wolfgang Telesinger was brought down hard by Bulgarian striker Kristo Stoitchkov as Austria won, 3-1, in Group 6.

Denmark Defeats Latvia In World Cup Qualifier

Compiled in Our Staff From Dispatches

Kim Vilfort ended a frustrating night for European champion Denmark by scoring the first goal Wednesday in a 2-0 World Cup qualifying victory over Latvia in Copenhagen.

Midfielder Vilfort, one of the heroes when Denmark beat Germany in the European championship final last June, tapped in a rebound in the 68th minute.

The Latvians, who have managed to draw four of their eight matches in their first attempt at playing in the World Cup finals, which are set for next year in the United States, frustrated the Danes for more than an hour before Vilfort got free.

But as the Latvians succumbed to fatigue, substitute striker Mark Stradal broke away from the defense and his low, well-placed shot from 15 meters made it 2-0.

The victory put the Danes second in Group 3 with nine points, and trailing Spain only on goal difference but with a game in hand. They are one point ahead of the Republic of Ireland, which they play in Dublin in two weeks.

Italy 2, Estonia 0: Italy attacked throughout but could only score two goals in its game against Estonia.

Despite the unimpressive 2-0 victory at Nerco Rocco stadium in Trieste, Italy vaulted to first place in Group 1 standings with 10 points and a record 4-2-0.

Switzerland is two points behind but played one game less.

Roberto Baggio, the imaginative forward of Juventus of Turin, gave the Italian team a 1-0 first-half lead scoring a beautiful goal in the 20th minute.

Lazio's Giuseppe Signori, the Italian league leading scorer, made it two in the 87th minute with a perfect shot from 12 meters.

Between goals Estonia's goalie Mart Poom made several brilliant saves and Italian forwards spoiled some clear scoring chances.

Italian goalie Gianluca Pagliuca was never threatened as Estonian players concentrated on defense to reduce extent of a widely expected defeat.

The Estonian team, still without a goal in three World Cup matches, remained in last place in Group-one with a single point.

Austria 3, Bulgaria 1: Austria surprisingly beat Bulgaria in a Group 6 match at Vienna's Ernst Happel stadium.

Despite the victory, Austria's chances of taking part in the World Cup remained slim. It would have to clear big hurdles to keep its chances alive. It has yet to play in Finland and Sweden next month and also faces Bulgaria in Sofia on Oct. 13.

Heimo Pfeifenberger opened the scoring in the 11th minute and Dietmar Kuehnbauer put the home side 2-0 ahead in the 25th as the Austrians dominated play in the first half.

They lost concentration and grip on the match in the second half, and Trifon Ivanov scored Bulgaria's only goal in the 54th minute.

But in a strong finish, Anton Polster, elegantly dribbling through the Bulgarian defense, scored the third Austrian goal in the 90th minute.

Russia 4, Luxembourg 0: Sergei Kiryakov paced Russia to its win over Luxembourg to maintain its perfect record in Group 5 and close in on the leader, Greece.

Playing in Luxembourg, forward Kiryakov opened the score in the 11th minute and added a second just after half-time in the 46th minute. Igor Shalimov added a third in the 58th minute and Igor Kolyvanov finished off the job with a fourth goal in the final seconds.

Following Wednesday's only scheduled game in the group, Greece maintains the lead with nine points out of five games, followed by Russia with six points out of three games.

Already well back is Hungary, with only three points out of four games, and Iceland with two points out of four matches. Luxembourg is still looking for its first point and goal after four attempts.

Apart from clinching its third World Cup win in a row, Russia defense, anchored by goalie Stanislav Cherchesov, maintained its perfect defensive record. At the other end, Russia more than doubled its scoring total, pushing it up to seven goals.

Romania 2, Cyprus 1: In Bucharest, two goals by Ilie Dumitrescu kept the host team in its second place in Group 4, three points behind Belgium and three ahead of Wales.

Cyprus scored first, in the 23rd minute, when Andros Sotiriou headed the ball into Bogdan Stelcer's goal on the visitors' first corner kick.

But Romania dominated play, and in the 35th minute Dumitrescu beat two defenders to cheer the 30,000 fans in Bucharest's Ghencea stadium.

In the second half, Dumitrescu scored again in the 55th minute from close range on a pass from George Hagi.

Lithuania 3, Albania 1: In Vilnius, Lithuania, the home team alive its slim hopes of qualifying for the finals by winning a Group 3 match.

The Albanians conceded two goals in five minutes midway through the first half and lost any chance of forcing their way back into the match when defender Gjergji Dema was sent off in the 39th minute for an obvious foul.

The victory lifted Lithuania into fourth place in the seven-team group with seven points from seven matches, two points behind group leader Spain. (Reuters AP, AFP)

An International Lane for NBA?

By Harvey Araton
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — "We're like a hockey team; everybody wants to see us fight," said Dennis Rodman.

"Whatever it takes," said Bill Laimbeer.

Cut to a montage of elbows, body slams and assorted flagrant fouls committed by the Detroit Pistons.

Get the picture? That's the one the National Basketball Association wanted its audience to get in 1988, when NBA Properties marketed "Bad Boys," the story of the Pistons' 1987-88 run to the league finals, in which they were beaten by the Los Angeles Lakers.

Not only were the Pistons not yet champions, they were not even officially the Bad Boys until the league dubbed them as such with the video. As it used, Isaiah Thomas, at the top, said: "If we're going to be the Bad Boys, we've got to act like Bad Boys."

This slice of NBA history, long after the prospering league needed to take the low road to establish itself, demonstrates that it recognizes and pursues secretly

revels in the market value of villainous teams and players to challenge its loved superstars.

One NBA official, requesting anonymity, said the league regrets the Pistons video. But there can be little doubt that the presence of Bad Boys II, the Knicks in New York is at worst a double-edged sword.

As the Knicks mount their challenge to Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls, national and world interest will intensify and ratings should soar.

But because the Knicks have been molded in the media capital to play a physical, confrontational style and have been in outrageous scrapes, the sense is that violence in the game is escalating, and that ultimately is a dangerous fine line for the corporate-conscious NBA to straddle.

A sampling of opinion suggests there is no clear consensus.

"It's being blown out of proportion because it's New York, and because a couple of the big names like Michael Jordan and Shaquille O'Neal have been

in a couple of fights," said Paul Silas, an assistant coach with the New Jersey Nets. "There's been no more fighting than any other year or era."

The Nets' vice president, Willis Reed, said: "I think we've got a problem because there's just too much talking. There's always been fights, but something's got to be done about the talking."

Chuck Daly, the coach the Nets lured away from the Pistons, said it is time to consider the possibility that the problem would be solved by finger-pointing or stiffer punishment.

"This is a game that was created for 5 feet, 6 inches tall," said Daly. "Now who's playing it? Giants. And every time you get a guy going into the eery, you've got seven or eight of them converging. It may be time to look at the wider, international lane."

"With the Olympic team last summer, our big men were in foul trouble every game," he continued, referring to David Robinson and Patrick Ewing. "Maybe we've just got to give them more territory to work with."

Playoff Berth Race A 3-Way Scramble

The Associated Press

Three-pointers by Dennis Scott have given the Eastern Conference a three-way tie for eighth place and last-place battle for the National Basketball Association's playoffs.

Scott threatened Brian Shaw's week-old league record of 10 3-pointers in a game, hitting nine and scoring a career-high 41 points

over time and Cleveland beat Atlanta for the 10th straight time while winning its fifth consecutive game.

The Cavs, who have not lost to the Hawks since April 9, 1991, overcame a five-point deficit in the final 54 seconds of regulation play. Danny Ferry's shot with 0.6 seconds remaining tied the score at 99.

Trail Blazers 101, Clippers 99: Terry Porter's 3-point basket with 22.5 seconds left gave Portland its fifth straight victory and maintained its one-game lead over San Antonio in the battle for home-court advantage in the opening round of the Western Conference playoffs.

Spurs 110, Kings 100: David Robinson scored 13 of his 16 points in the first half as San Antonio handed Sacramento its sixth straight loss and 10th in 11 games.

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SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

Major League Standings

AMERICAN LEAGUE			
East Division			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Boston	4	2	.667
Toronto	4	2	.667
New York	3	3	.500
Cleveland	3	3	.500
Detroit	4	4	.500
Minnesota	1	4	.200
Baltimore	1	4	.200
West Division			
Team	W	L	Pct.
California	4	1	.800
Oakland	4	3	.571
Chicago	4	3	.571
Minnesota	3	3	.500
Seattle	3	3	.500
Kansas City	1	4	.200

Japanese Leagues

Central League			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Hiroshima	4	0	1.000
Chunichi	3	1	.750
Yamaguchi	2	2	.500
Hanjin	2	2	.500
Yokohama	1	3	.250
Yokohama	1	3	.250

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Cleveland	9	0	1.000
Seattle	8	0	1.000
Seattle	8	0	1.000
Seattle	8	0	1.000

Baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Atlanta	4	3	.571
San Francisco	4	3	.571
Houston	3	3	.500
Los Angeles	3	3	.500
Colorado	2	4	.333
San Diego	2	4	.333
Chicago	1	4	.200
Chicago	1	4	.200

Baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Atlanta	4	3	.571
San Francisco	4	3	.571
Houston	3	3	.500
Los Angeles	3	3	.500
Colorado	2	4	.333
San Diego	2	4	.333
Chicago	1	4	.200
Chicago	1	4	.200

Baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Atlanta	4	3	.571
San Francisco	4	3	.571
Houston	3	3	.500
Los Angeles	3	3	.500
Colorado	2	4	.333
San Diego	2	4	.333
Chicago	1	4	.200
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Baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Atlanta	4	3	.571
San Francisco	4	3	.571
Houston	3	3	.500
Los Angeles	3	3	.500
Colorado	2	4	.333
San Diego	2	4	.333
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كندا في أبريل

ART BUCHWALD

Million-Dollar Night

WASHINGTON — A movie called "Indecent Proposal" has just been released, starring Robert Redford, Demi Moore and Woody Harrelson. The plot is simple. Demi and Woody are married, and Redford offers a million dollars to sleep with Demi for one night. The movie looks like it will make a lot of money, and it is certainly a box office hit at dinner parties.



Buchwald

The subject heatedly debated the guests do if the offer was made to them. I was at the Haymakers when it came up after the lasagna was served. "I'd do it," said Frieda Fennsberg, "but since it's Robert Redford I'd give him a discount."

Tamara Tomorrow added, "I don't think it matters if it's Robert Redford or Danny De Vito. The real question is, would you sell your body to anyone for a million dollars?"

Al Tomorrow replied, "That's a woman's decision. I'd stay out of it except to put the money in some safe Treasury bonds."

This really turned Jessica Darling on her side. "Suppose Redford

wanted to sleep with the husband for a million dollars instead of the wife? What would you say to that?" Mumford was outraged, "That's immoral!"

Wilcox, a certified public accountant, tried to bring some reality back into the conversation.

"What we are overlooking here is that Demi and Woody are not getting \$1 million. They have to pay federal and state tax on it. By the time everything has been deducted, including Social Security, they will hardly have enough left over for a fish and chips dinner at the Red Lobster."

Clara Bowman said, "That hardly seems worth losing a night's sleep over."

You could tell that the women were getting madder and madder. It was a love-for-love situation, or worse, a love-for-money situation, and the men at the table did not seem as horrified by the Redford proposal as the women thought they should be.

This was typified by Sultan when his wife asked him how he felt about it and he replied, "I'm thinking, I'm thinking."

Mrs. Sultan threw her glass of wine at him.

One of the questions that came up was whether Redford could be arrested for soliciting.

Blauvelt, the lawyer, explained, "If it's over a hundred dollars it's not soliciting—it's called closing a deal."

All the women dinner guests except Frieda agreed that they wouldn't accept the Redford offer. But what annoyed them was the fact that they even had to consider it. As Hilda Permitt said quietly to me, "One night with Robert Redford could go awfully fast, but at least I would have more to show for it than I have from a thousand nights with my husband, Fred."

The reader may note that I stayed out of the discussion. Here's where I stand on the proposition: First, the money he offered could be better spent on protecting the spotted owl or helping movie producers with their learning disabilities.

Second, there is something wrong with America when Robert Redford has to pay for it.

Art, Money and the Eternal Triangle

By Tim Golden

MEXICO CITY — For almost two years, as the world's fascination with the Mexican painter Frida Kahlo fed a stream of pilgrims to the funny blue house in which she was born and died, visitors there were met by bolted doors and a guard mumbling about "repairs."

The reopening of the Frida Kahlo Museum ignited a smoldering dispute.

Artists, critics and intellectuals have been demanding to know how it could have taken two years to repaint the museum, fix one of its walls and install an alarm system that seems to go off every time someone inside the museum moves.

Their broader question is how did the president of the steering committee of the Diego Rivera Trust, a wealthy former model and patron of Rivera's, manage to gain control of a large collection of Rivera and Kahlo art, papers and belongings that is supposed to belong to all of Mexico?

"He did not have money," Dolores Olmedo, said of Rivera. "And I did."

Perched on a sofa in the sitting room of her walled 10-acre (4-hectare) estate on Mexico City's southern edge, Olmedo was explaining why, after Kahlo's death in 1954, Rivera asked her to buy the largest private collection of Kahlo's paintings.

She paid 20,000 pesos, she said, then the equivalent of \$1,600. "If it were not for my private collection, Frida Kahlo would not be known to the world," Olmedo said.

That she kept the works in the private gallery at her estate rather than in the Kahlo museum, as she apparently promised Rivera, has been questioned occasionally by art historians. But with Kahlo's transformation in recent years from an obscure artist into a pop icon, the question has become one of patriotism.

"Everyone in this country is very afraid of her," said Rivera's only surviving daughter, Guadalupe Rivera Marin, who long ago gave up any involvement in her father's trust because of what she described as Olmedo's "feudal" control over it. "She has been very friendly with all of the presidents, and all of them let her do as she wishes."

Some blame the Bank of Mexico, the country's central bank, for failing to assert itself as the fiduciary of the trust Rivera set up to administer both the Kahlo museum and the nearby Anahuacalli, a museum and the nearby built to house his large collection of pre-Hispanic art. (A third museum, in Rivera's former studio in Mexico City, is run separately by the National Institute of Fine Arts.)

And there are those who say the heart of the problem lies in a rivalry that Olmedo, now be- lieved to be in her early 80s, continues to feel toward Kahlo, the intense, suffering figure who was the most important woman among the many in Rivera's life.

"Dolores Olmedo kept the museum closed for two years because she wanted to, because she has a passionate hatred for Frida," said Jesusa Rodriguez, a leading avant-garde theater director. "I don't think she has ever pardoned Frida for being the true woman of Diego's life."

Olmedo, who has steadfastly defended her handling of the Kahlo museum, dismissed her critics as "cynical meddlers," but offered little explanation why the most refurbishing took so long to complete.

"The trust patrimony is inventoried in its entirety," said Eduardo Turrent Diaz, a spokesman for the Bank of Mexico, "and is kept in its entirety on the grounds of the museum."

The museum holds only a smattering of the artist's work, and none of her most important paintings. But its collection of artifacts from the Kahlo mythology — the mirrored canopy bed in which she painted self-portraits while recovering from her countless surgeries, her favorite traditional Mexican dresses, the odd-shaped patio on which her monkey roamed, the portraits of her heroes like Malenkov and Mao — have made it an almost sacred place for the legions of Kahlo's posthumous fans.

Olmedo's critics contend that the trust neglected for many years to collect royalties on reproductions of Rivera's work, which under the terms of his will were to be the source of funds for the museums. Royalties are now collected by the government, but they do not go to the trust or its museums.



Detail of a Kahlo painting showing her with her husband, Diego Rivera.

smaller items once in the museum have disappeared, an accusation Olmedo denies. But she did not dispute having kept the collection of Kahlo works she bought in 1955, although a copy of a pamphlet published by the trust in 1964 stated that she acquired them "expressly with the aim of donating them to the museum."

Nor does Miss Olmedo say much to dispel the notion that she felt animosity toward Kahlo. "I was never a friend of Frida Kahlo," she said. And referring to the artist's reputed bisexuality, she added: "Frida Kahlo liked women. I liked men."

Her feelings about Rivera, Olmedo suggested, are another matter.

They met when she was a girl, at the Secretariat of Public Education, she said, where her mother, a teacher, was collecting a paycheck. Rivera, who painted his first great mural in the secretariat's patio between 1923 and 1927, asked the woman if she might allow her daughter to model.

"Of course I never told my mother that I was going to pose nude," Olmedo said. "She would have killed me."

She returned, Tibol said, after Rivera's younger daughter, Ruth Rivera Marin, suggested that her father paint another portrait of Olmedo, who had become a wealthy woman with many friends among the political elite.

After the portrait was done, Olmedo became Rivera's patron and closest companion, Tibol said, displacing his last wife, Emma Hurtado. Although Olmedo denied rumors that she was the painter's lover, some of the 27 drawings he did of her hint at a strong sentimental relationship.

One, a large nude, carries the legend, "For Lola Olmedo, admiration and love during 25 years and now you will believe it and I am sure you know that this has become a great love — Diego Rivera, August 16, 1955."

Olmedo said she had bought the Kahlo paintings only because Rivera asked her to. "I acquired the Frida collection to give pleasure to Diego," she said. The controversy may be resolved in December when, Olmedo says, she will inaugurate her own museum in the 16th-century hacienda behind her home.

Already, one wall holds a banner stating that Olmedo is leaving her collection to the Mexican people, following her mother's example. Her mother, the banner reads, "always told me, 'Everything you have, share it with others.'"

PEOPLE

Don Johnson at Justice: His Subject Was Vice

Justice Department employees dining in the department cafeteria got a surprise when their boss, Attorney General Janet Reno, walked in with Don Johnson. Johnson, who is most famous for playing a police detective in TV's "Miami Vice," said he was "having a pleasant chat with a former fellow Miami-an." The actor, who had never met Reno in Miami, visited her to offer his help in programs involving youth and substance abuse. Asked what she thought of the television show, Reno said: "I didn't get to see it much."

Prince Charles says he is "not entirely dotty" when he converts farms he owns to organic production. He told scientists and farmers meeting near Edinburgh that organic farming was not "airy fairy" but a traditional form of agriculture. The heir to the British throne practices organic farming at several country sites.

Former President George Bush and soon-to-be-former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney may not have much in the way of power these days, but it seems they can still get scrappy. Both men blasted the Toronto Star this week for a report saying that George and Barbara Bush snubbed Mulroney and his wife, Milla, during the latter's recent visit to Texas. "To write that I left Brian Mulroney 'cooling his heels' is vicious and slanderous," Bush said in a letter to the editor.

Of the many colorful and creative versions of the Bill Clinton-Sharon Stone meeting in Vancouver circulating this week, the relatively boring one remains solid: Richard Dreyfuss arranged for Stone, her fiancé Bill Macdonald, Richard Gere and Cindy Crawford and producer Bud Yorkin — all involved with film projects in Canada — to have coffee with the president at the Hyatt a week ago Saturday night. That's all she wrote, folks.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED Appears on Pages 6 & 15

Covent Garden Opera Plans 2-Year Overhaul

LONDON — Britain's Royal Opera House on Wednesday defended plans for a £150 million (\$233 million) modernization of its Covent Garden home, saying it was essential for its survival into the 21st century. Directors said the opera would close in 1997 for two years of improvements to its stage, seating and public areas. One third of the cost of renovation would be met through a public appeal to be launched later this year to raise £45 million. The rest is expected to come from income generated by shops and offices on the site and from Britain's new national lottery for the arts and sport.

WEATHER

Weather forecast section including maps and tables for Europe, Asia, North America, Middle East, and Oceania. Includes a forecast for Friday through Sunday.

CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle section with clues for Across and Down, and a solution to the puzzle of April 24.

BOOKS

FOR LOVE By Sue Miller. 301 pages. \$23. HarperCollins Publishers. Reviewed by Christopher Lehmann-Haupt. In the prologue of Sue Miller's absorbing new novel, "For Love," Lottie Gardner, the story's middle-aged protagonist, forces herself to reconstruct in her mind a horrifying accident that has just occurred. Lottie, a free-lance medical writer from Chicago, has left her husband temporarily and returned to the neighborhood where she grew up in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She is helping her older brother, Cameron, settle the affairs of their senile widowed mother, whom they have put in a nursing home. While staying in her mother's house and fixing it up to sell, Lottie has watched Cam renege a longtime romance with a wealthy neighbor, Elizabeth Harbour, who has come home because her marriage is threatening to break up. But suddenly one evening a few days before the novel's opening, Elizabeth has called Cam to tell him that her husband has come to fetch her home and that she can't see Cam anymore. Impulsively, Cam tells her he will drive right over. Terrified at the prospect of her husband meeting Cam, Elizabeth persuades her children's baby sitter, Jessica, 17, to step outside and tell Cam he can't come in. Jessica, who has been drinking, wails in the driveway and tipsily steps forward when Cam's car comes racing in. Cam can't stop in time and Jessica is killed.

This contrast is intimated when Lottie stops in the middle of the street and looks back at her mother's house, "crammed in a row next to the other two miniatures; and then over at Elizabeth's house, with its wastefully deep, curving porch, its sloping lawn, its porte cochere, its turret and elaboration of creative woodwork." Elizabeth's father was a distinguished professor of anthropology; Lottie's was an embittered lawyer who went to prison when she was 5. That left Lottie's mother alone to watch television all day and drink too much and abuse her children. Childhood playmates, Lottie and Elizabeth were gradually pulled apart by these differences, and left tenuously connected only by Cam's flickering romance with Elizabeth. Elizabeth went on to college and a

social marriage. Lottie dropped out of school and worked as a waitress. But now in the present time of the novel, their positions seem to have reversed. Elizabeth has scars on her wrists and an unsteady life. Lottie has made it as a writer and is now researching a piece on the emotion of love. She is bemused by the paradoxes of her own and Elizabeth's contrasting situations. As always in her writing it is the mounting complexities of situations, not their resolution, that interests Miller. Miller doesn't win all the gambles she takes in "For Love." But it is the singular virtue of Miller's richly textured fiction that it captures the randomness and awkwardness and asymmetry of life.

By Alan Truscott. record includes one most remarkable victory. In 1970 in Stockholm, she won the world mixed pair title, playing with Waldemar von Zedwitz, whose failing eyesight made it impossible for him to see the dummy clearly. On the diagrammed deal Brier struggled up to an optimistic four spades after West had opened the bidding with one club. She ruffed West's second heart lead and ran the club ten, feeling happier when this drove out the ace. Another heart lead was ruffed, and a repeat of the club finesse allowed South to take two tricks in that suit. The diamond ace was cashed, and the closed hand was entered with a trump lead to the ace. The king and queen of diamonds were cashed, and the diamond ten was ruffed with dummy's spade ten.

BRIDGE section with a hand diagram and analysis. Includes a table for bidding and a list of cards for both sides.

Large advertisement for AT&T USA Direct Service. Features the headline "Get your point across in no time." and a list of international access numbers for various countries. Includes the AT&T logo and contact information.